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OPINION METER

This week's poll:

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INSIDE

BUSINESS



Cyprus secured a \$13-billion package of rescue loans in tense, last-ditch negotiations early Monday.

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ASIA



Former President Pervez Musharraf returned home Sunday.

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FOCUS



He knew how to comfort medics sickened by the smell of blood and troops haunted by the screams of horribly burned Iraqi children.

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Inos: 10MW solar power contract to be scaled down

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

Gov. Eloy S. Inos said the government's planned 10-megawatt solar photovoltaic power plant contract with California-based American Capital Energy Co. will be scaled down to at least 4MW for the overall power grid's safety, at a time when the administration is also reviewing whether a preliminary arrangement with Global Energy Corp. on green nuclear energy could also be made part of the overall plan to integrate alternative or renewable energy into the existing Commonwealth Utilities Corp. power grid.

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Shortage in public school buses anticipated this year

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

Even as the CNMI Public School System has been admitting a greater number of students, school buses that ferry public school students to and from schools will not increase following reports that PSS will not take delivery of any new vehicles this year.

PSS program manager for Federal Transit Authority grants Jack Diaz disclosed yesterday that the system has only about \$100,000 left for fleet maintenance, which came from American Reinvestment and Recovery Act grants in fiscal year 2012.

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BUSINESS AS USUAL

While CNMI government agencies were closed yesterday in observance of Covenant Day holiday, the U.S. Post Office in Chalan Kanoa was teeming with customers at noon. The U.S. Postal Service, which has been losing \$25 million per day, unveiled a plan to save about \$2 billion a year by moving to five-day delivery for mail but keeping six-day package delivery.

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

At least 78 alternatives to tax increases proposed

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

At least 78 alternatives to raising taxes to help boost the economy are now in the hands of Gov. Eloy S. Inos, House Speaker Joseph DeLeon Guerrero (IR-Saipan)

and other lawmakers whose next full leadership meeting will likely include discussions on proposals such as cuts in paid government vacation, reduction in retirement benefits, privatization of utilities services, abolition of the land alienation provision or Article 12 of the NMI Constitution and the Marianas

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» Chamber of Commerce presents 'Economic stimulus package' to Inos, lawmakers

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Local

‘Settlement agreement in Ogumoro lawsuit was unsigned’

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
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REPORTER

The settlement agreement in the lawsuit filed by police Capt. Aniceto Ogumoro against then Department of Public Safety commissioner Juan I. Wabol and other police officers was unsigned, according to U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona.

In a written order issued on Friday that dismissed Ogumoro's lawsuit, Manglona said there has been over four years' delay in the prosecution of this lawsuit and that throughout this period, Ogumoro has not prosecuted this case and has instead pursued the performance of an unsigned settlement agreement. "This pursuit has yielded moneys paid and apologies giv-

en. In fact, only one term of this agreement remains unsatisfied: his (Ogumoro) promotion to the rank of major," Manglona said.

Apparently, the judge said, this condition to promote Ogumoro requires more favorable budgetary conditions that have not materialized in the past four years.

Manglona earlier had ordered Ogumoro to show cause why this lawsuit should not be dismissed with prejudice for failure to prosecute.

In Ogumoro's response, deputy attorney general Viola Alepuyo disclosed a yet-to-be fulfilled final item in the settlement agreement that the CNMI government entered into: the promotion of captain Ogumoro to the rank of major.

In her declaration filed in

court, Alepuyo said when she was in private practice, she represented Ogumoro in the lawsuit filed in 2008.

Alepuyo asked the court to allow Ogumoro additional time to secure another attorney who can represent him in the case to pursue the last remaining item in the parties' settlement agreement.

In her written order issued on Friday, Manglona said during an order to show cause hearing last Wednesday, defendants' former counsel (Braddock Huesman) indicated that a memorialized, but unsigned, settlement agreement was reached.

Manglona said at least some of the government officials who negotiated this agreement have since departed from government employment.

Not only has defendant's former counsel departed, but the Commonwealth Attorney General has as well, Manglona said.

The judge said Alepuyo, the counsel for Ogumoro in these proceedings, is now the deputy attorney general of the Commonwealth.

Manglona said Ogumoro unreasonably delayed in prosecuting this case because it has been over four years since any court filing.

Manglona said if not for her order to show cause, this case would likely have remained pending without action.

"Because this uncertainty of whether Ogumoro will begin prosecuting this case has burdened defendants for four years and continues to burden them, they are presumptively injured

by Ogumoro's delay," the judge pointed out.

Manglona said this presumptive injury is actual and that defendants now lack a counsel familiar with the case.

"This is especially damaging because the delay impeded any potential settlement they had," Manglona said.

The judge said the court learned that DPS commissioners and acting commissioners also had a high rate of turn over during this four-year period.

In fact, Manglona noted, at one point Ogumoro himself was the acting DPS commissioner, and now one of the named defendants in this lawsuit is the current commissioner James Deleon Guerrero.

Manglona said because of the turnover of government officials, this unsigned settlement agreement reached by past government officials is unlikely to be honored by current government officials.

Indeed, she said, DPS commissioner Deleon Guerrero has indicated he's unwilling to honor it.

Manglona said Ogumoro requested an indefinite delay to allow him to continue pursuing this term's satisfaction.

But Manglona disagreed, stating that seeking a more favorable economic climate to realize his remaining pursuit is neither in the public interest nor

an expeditious resolution.

This indefinite delay, the judge said, would also complicate the court's management of its docket.

Manglona said docket management is easiest when parties reach a settlement agreement and dismiss their case with the court retaining jurisdiction only to enforce that agreement.

Manglona said Ogumoro did not adopt this approach and instead, he obtained an unsigned settlement agreement.

Manglona said Ogumoro asks the court to retain jurisdiction over the entire case.

"Such a prosecutorial approach, if adopted by more plaintiffs, bodes ill for the court's docket," the judge said.

In his lawsuit, Ogumoro, through counsel Alepuyo, claimed that his arrest in 2006 was based on drummed up charges and was a conspiracy among then acting DPS commissioner Wabol and other police officers.

Ogumoro was the acting police director when police officers arrested him on Feb. 11, 2006, after they raided his house on Capital Hill where they reportedly recovered three rifles and 25 boxes of ammunition.

The Office of the Attorney General later moved to dismiss the case after the Superior Court suppressed all the evidence seized at the raid.

Saipan Awaodori Team takes part in cleanup

By **CLARISSA V. DAVID**
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REPORTER

After missing two cleanups, members of the Saipan Awaodori Team were able to perform community service by taking part in this month's cleanup in Garapan last Saturday.

PDM Promoters Inc. representative Sonia Siwa said the young dancers missed the last two cleanups due to their class schedules and activities.

The students also have begun practicing for the upcoming Saipan Awaodori Festival in April.

Siwa said a total of 26 volunteers helped pick up trash from 9am to 11:30am



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Volunteers collected 1,530 lbs of trash during their cleanup of the Garapan area.

along Coral Tree Avenue to the Garapan Fire Station on to Beach Road up to Joeten Hafa Adai Shopping Center.

The group collected 1,530 lbs of trash that included beer bottles and cans found on roadside, cigarette butts, dried leaves, and a stack of used casseroles and frying pans left on the vacant lot near Winchell's.

PDM Promoters Inc. is a nonprofit group that conducts the monthly cleanup at the heart of Saipan's tourist district in an effort to protect the island's natural beauty and environment as well as promote the island's main industry.

For more information, call 234-6900.



The Saipan Awaodori Team poses with other volunteers during their cleanup in Garapan last Saturday.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Governor appoints 2 to health care board

By **HAIDEE V. EUGENIO**
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REPORTER

Gov. Eloy S. Inos appointed Brabu Pharmacy owner and pharmacist Ted Parker and Dr. Marty Rohringer to serve on the Health Care Profession Licensing Board. The governor sent their nominations to the Senate for its advice and consent.

If confirmed, Parker will fill a seat vacated by Dr. Janet McCullough, which will expire on Aug. 30, 2014. Parker will represent the health care professional on the board.

Rohringer, meanwhile, will represent physicians on the board. If confirmed, he will fill a seat vacated by Dr. Leticia P. Borja, which will expire on April 26, 2016.

"The lieutenant governor and I are confident that Dr. Rohringer/Mr. Parker is qualified and will be an asset on this important board," the governor said in separate March 12 letters to Senate President Ralph Torres (R-Saipan).

The governor asks for the Senate's favorable action on the appointments, which have yet to be scheduled for public hear-

ing by the Senate Committee on Executive Appointments and Government Investigations.

Over-the-cap salary

The governor also certified and approved the over-the-cap salary of Rhonda Lee Gleason, physician assistant at the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp.

In a March 21 letter to Senate President Ralph Torres (R-Saipan) and House Speaker

Joseph Deleon Guerrero (IR-Saipan), the governor said Gleason will receive an annual salary of \$80,000.

The Salary Amendment Act of 1992 sets the salary ceiling for government employees at \$50,000. However, the law gives the governor the authority to waive the ceiling and submit a certification to the Legislature.

"By copy of this letter, I am also advising the chairman of the Civil Service Commission of this certification," Inos told the Legislature.

Most of the over-the-cap salaries are for attorneys at the Office of the Attorney General and physicians and other medical personnel at CHC.

» **Salary cap exemption for physician assistant OK'd**

'CNMI govt joined Fund settlement negotiations in good faith'

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
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REPORTER

The Office of the Attorney General yesterday urged the federal court to instruct the NMI Retirement Fund to comply with the validly enacted Public Law 18-02, that compels the Fund to release up to 50 percent of members' contributions within 30 days of submitting a refund application.

Assistant attorney general Reena Patel, counsel for the CNMI government, said P.L. 18-02 does not conflict with Fund

settlement negotiations, but rather furthers such negotiations.

Patel also maintained that the CNMI government defendants in retiree Betty Johnson's lawsuit have participated and will continue to participate in settlement negotiations with good faith.

Patel discussed the CNMI government's position to P.L. 18-02 in response to U.S. District Court for the NMI designated judge Frances Tydingco-Gatewood's order on Friday that directed Gov. Eloy S. Inos to appear at a hearing in connection with Johnson's emer-

gency motion.

"Because this case has a significant impact on the livelihood of thousands of retirees and employees of the Commonwealth government, the court believes the attendance and participation of its chief executive is essential," Tydingco-Gatewood said in an order.

The judge said if Inos is unable to attend at the hearing currently set for April 1 at 10am, he may designate Lt. Gov. Jude U. Hofschneider to attend.

Johnson filed an emergency motion for clarification of the court's order dated Jan. 18, 2013 with respect to Public Law 18-2.

Johnson asserts that P.L. 18-2 was recently enacted by the Commonwealth "to circumvent

the court's order and force the Fund to make immediate distributions to current employees."

Johnson, through counsel, alleges that an emergency hearing is necessary because the passage of P.L. 18-2 will affect the viability of the ongoing settlement process.

In the Jan. 18 order, Tydingco-Gatewood said that, in light of the anticipated settlement conference in Johnson's lawsuit, and in the interest of judicial economy, the court will hold all other pending motions in abeyance until the settlement process is completed.

In the government's response yesterday, Patel said the CNMI government defendants submitted a comprehensive letter outlining their settlement positions

and concerns.

Patel said at a video conference with chief bankruptcy judge Robert Faris on March 13, 2013, the judge asked the CNMI government to prepare a settlement brief that could be shared with all parties as the CNMI government's initial letter was the most comprehensive submission.

"If the CNMI government was not participating in settlement in good faith, Judge Faris would not have trusted the central government with preparing the initial settlement brief," the government lawyer said.

Patel said the settlement process does not prohibit the CNMI government from taking its measures to improve its financial liability to meet its settle-

ment obligations.

"Public Law 18-02 not only improves the CNMI government's ability to contribute additional funds to current retiree benefits, but also clarifies issues and concerns raised by the Fund in the Fund's initial emergency motion for instruction and other discussions," Patel said.

In her lawsuit, Johnson asked the court to order the Fund and the CNMI government to collect Superior Court associate judge Kenneth L. Govendo's judgment, pay or bring current all CNMI obligations to the Fund, and distribute appropriate retirement benefits.

Betty Johnson named as defendants then governor Benigno R. Fitial, the CNMI government, and other co-defendants.

Manglona suspends attorneys Atalig, Yana, Woodruff

U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona has suspended from the practice of law in federal court effective after 30 days attorneys Antonio M. Atalig, Reynaldo O. Yana, and Stephen C. Woodruff.

In separate orders issued on Friday, Manglona said Atalig and Yana are suspended pursuant to a disciplinary order issued on May 16, 2012 by Superior Court Associate Judge David A. Wiseman.

Manglona said Woodruff is suspended from the practice of law pending the resolution of disciplinary matters referred to the Superior Court for prosecution.

Wiseman issued the indefinite suspension of Atalig and Yana from practicing law in the CNMI for their refusal to return \$1.1 million in attorneys' fees that the two received from the Angel Malite estate. The judge said the suspension is indefinite until the two lawyers have complied with some conditions.

On Feb. 1, 2013, the CNMI Supreme Court suspended Woodruff indefinitely pending resolution of the disciplinary matters. The high court said nearly a dozen disciplinary cases are pending against the lawyer.

Manglona issued separate orders in May 2012 and February 2013, notifying Atalig, Yana, and Woodruff of the court's intent to impose reciprocal discipline pursuant to Rule 16 of the Local Disciplinary Rules.

Manglona directed the three lawyers to explain why they should not be suspended from practicing law in the district court.

In her suspension orders issued on Friday, Manglona

required the three lawyers to provide notice to their clients for leave to withdraw from pending cases, not accepting new cases, filing an affidavit of compliance, and maintaining records as a condition precedent to any petition for reinstatement.



Yana



Atalig



Woodruff

Manglona required Atalig and Yana to provide her with a certified copy of any final order of the CNMI Supreme Court in their appeal of the disciplinary order, and of any subsequent order of the Superior Court lifting or modifying their indefinite suspension.

Atalig and Yana may petition for reinstatement upon the lifting of the suspension by the CNMI Supreme Court or the Superior Court, the judge said.

Manglona required Woodruff to provide her with a certified copy of any order of the CNMI Supreme Court lifting or modifying the interim suspension or imposing other discipline, or any final Superior Court order in his disciplinary proceedings, within 10 days of the issuance of such an order.

Woodruff, the judge said, may petition for reinstatement upon the lifting of the interim suspension by the CNMI Supreme Court or six months after the effective date of this order, whichever is sooner.

Manglona directed the court's clerk to publish notice of the suspension of the three lawyers in the *Saipan Tribune* and the *Marianas Variety*, and to transmit a certified copy of this order to all judges within this district and to all courts to which the three have been ad-

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Woman gets baptized at 60

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

Thelma A. Espanola's perseverance brought her to many places to help her family sur-

vive starting at the tender age of 9 and despite finishing only first grade. But at almost 60 years old, she says there's still one thing she wants—to be baptized in church.



60-year-old Thelma A. Espanola, left, with her friend Ligaya Almodiel, right, on Saturday night in Gapan. Espanola says it is never too late to get baptized.
HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

"I believe it's never too late to do so," Espanola, a longtime foreign worker in the CNMI, told *Saipan Tribune* on Saturday night.

In between sobs, Espanola was able to relate her life story—from being born in the mountains in Barbaza, Antique in the Philippines to caring for her dying father while they were working in a sugarcane plantation when she was only 9 years old, and to working as a house helper in Singapore and Saipan.

She said in her decades of working as a house helper, she helped raise other families' 14 children, including one that is soon to become a priest and someone now working as a nurse in Australia.

"My mother died when I was 7 years old and my father died two years later, I wasn't able to be baptized. I'm turning 60 but I think the Lord still wants me to be baptized, that this is meant to be. Usually in the Catholic Church, baptism is held when one is still a baby or a young child but not when you're already 60," she said, adding that she dreamt of becoming a nun

someday when she was still young.

Espanola said she would always have fond memories of the families she worked for, including those who have already left the CNMI.

On Saturday, March 30, she will have her baptism at San Antonio Parish Church.

"I am thankful for those who made this a reality, including

my employer and friends here on Saipan," she said. A lunch celebration in Chalan Kanoa will be held the following day.

She said she feels "loved" and "touched" by the people in her journey. Espanola said she hopes her story will inspire others that regardless of old age, it is never too late to do the things that matter to them, even if it means being baptized in church at 60.

TAX

From Page 1

Visitors Authority's restructuring.

Saipan Chamber of Commerce president Alex Sablan and other Chamber officials separately presented copies of the nine-page 2013 Economic Stimulus Package to government officials in recent days.

The Chamber, the largest business organization in the CNMI with some 160 members, describes the package as "a working document that suggests alternatives to increased taxation on businesses and individuals in the CNMI."

The package is divided into nine areas coupled with bullet points of specific and general recommendations—finance and banking, privatization, land issues, zoning, tourism industry, environment, investment, labor, and government operations.

Under privatization, for example, the Chamber suggests privatizing the Commonwealth Utilities Corp., the Commonwealth Health Center, solid waste management operations, and other services that the government currently performs.

On land issues, the Chamber recommends revisiting Article XI of the NMI Constitution for ownership of existing commercial development, fee simple ownership of land through a legislative initiative to abolish Article XII which restricts ownership of land to people of Northern Marianas descent, and private land commercial property taxes.

Sablan met with Inos, Lt.

Gov. Jude U. Hofschneider, and senior policy adviser Pete A. Tenorio on Thursday to deliver the economic stimulus package, six days after the same was delivered to the House speaker.

"The Chamber Board was encouraged by the discussion we had with Governor Inos and House Speaker Guerrero concerning the ESP's possibilities in generate revenue without increasing taxation. We hope for the same reaction by Senate President Torres. It is a working document, and hopefully the bullet point recommendations can be brought to fruition," Sablan said.

Senate President Ralph Torres (R-Saipan) is expected to receive his copy of the Chamber package today.

"The Chamber has always represented our economy was built, and can be built again, by offering incentives and programs that attract new investment to the CNMI. This in turn will create jobs for our residents, increase government revenue and keep us headed in the right direction. The ESP takes a look at both sides of the equation, and offers how the Chamber sees ways to decrease spending in government," Sablan added.

Press secretary Angel A. Demapan confirmed yesterday that the governor and lieutenant governor received their copies of the package, and they are "now reviewing it."

"Short of any commitments at this time, Gov. Inos would like to discuss the Chamber's proposal further with members of the legislature at the next full leadership meeting," Demapan told *Saipan Tribune*.

This meeting has not been scheduled yet, but when a date is selected, the Chamber's economic stimulus package will most likely be included for discussion, he added.

The presentation of the package comes at a time when the Legislature has to consider tax increase bills and other revenue-generating measures.

Richard Pierce, Chamber executive director, developed the original economic stimulus package more than a decade ago, as a reaction to then governor Juan N. Babauta's comprehensive tax package in late 2002.

"Some of the original ESP's recommendations have become reality, while most have not been realized. The current ESP document reflects changes in our economy, the transition of federal immigration and labor authority and other investment incentive options," said Pierce, who accompanied Sablan and other Chamber board members in presenting the updated package.

In the area of government operations, the Chamber has a long list of specific recommendations. For example, it suggests that government scholarships need to be "based on academic achievement" and there should be "better use" of existing government-owned buildings.

It suggests pursuing Compact-Impact reimbursement, retention of government accounts receivable collections firm, consider percentage reduction in salary versus rebate removal, and non-imposition of new taxes "until the economy rebounds."

SOLAR

From Page 1

However, the government has yet to do a grid integration study that businessman Herman Sablan said yesterday "should have been done years back."

Sablan is the local business partner for ACE, and is also among those helping the promotion of GEC's "green nuclear" technology in the CNMI and other parts of the world including Bangladesh where he just recently came from.

CUC is required by law to derive at least 40 percent of its energy from renewable or alternative sources by 2012 but even CUC says this is "unrealistic."

Inos said the administration was prepared to award the solar photovoltaic power plant contract to ACE "but when we went through the technical requirements, we found out that because of the huge change in (energy) demand and production, it was the opinion of experts that to undertake a 10MW solar power and combine it with a 30MW diesel production is risky in terms of infrastructure liability."

"In other words, the infrastructure, especially the distribution lines, (is) not necessarily adequate to handle that. The idea now is to scope it down maybe to 4MW because the peak production of the (main) power plant right now is around 30MW," Inos said in an interview.

The governor said the government still needs to do a grid integration study which he said will, among other things, determine "how to synchronize the power coming in from the alternative site" to the power coming out from the main diesel power plant "so that we don't have a disaster at the main plant. That study is going to be contracted out in the near future."

This was among the issues the governor discussed with the U.S. National Renewable Energy Laboratory two weeks ago.

Sablan said ACE is aware of the government's plan to scale down the project contract from 10MW to "4MW or 5MW," depending on the result of the grid integration study.

"Hopefully the project will go through. We've just been waiting for the government to award the contract," Sablan told *Saipan Tribune* yesterday.

He said the solar photovoltaic power plant locations could be located in different parts of Saipan. For example, 1 to 2MW could be in Koblerville, the other 1 to 2MW could be in Kagman or Tanapag, and so forth.

ACE proposes to sell power to CUC at 18 cents per kWh.

'Nuclear energy'

Sablan also said that he's working with GEC officials including CEO Dr. Jay W. Khim in promoting "green nuclear technology" or the so-called Genie reactor. He also said a "letter of intent" to support it was signed last year by former governor Benigno R. Fitial and former attorney general and now fugitive from justice Edward T. Buckingham.

"That letter of intent to support this green nuclear technology was signed...and then later on there was a power purchase agreement for diesel power signed; that kind of saddened Global Energy," Sablan told *Saipan Tribune* yesterday.

Unknown to many, Fitial and Buckingham signed off on a preliminary deal with GEC for a 50-megawatt safe nuclear energy production plant, subject to certain conditions such as financing and regulatory approval of the technology.

Inos said on Sunday that he got hold of this document only last week, adding that he will be asking the Office of the Attorney General to review it and determine whether the CNMI is under any obligation or has liability related to it.

Sablan said GEC's green nuclear technology is worth considering.

The new, patent-pending, nuclear energy technology that GEC presented to the CNMI administration and Legislature last year is based on fusion and fast fission. It uses (fertile) Uranium 238 and not the (fissile) Uranium 235 of conventional nuclear technology. Uranium 238 is plentiful in nature and in non-radioactive nuclear waste.

Meanwhile, House Vice Speaker Frank Dela Cruz (IR-Saipan) said yesterday his office is always to discuss GEC's nuclear technology project with the governor. Earlier, Dela Cruz said the nuclear energy document is a "pre-agreement that will lead to a PPA subject to meeting the requirements as set forth."

Inos, who assumed his post only on Feb. 20, confirmed that the document bears the signatures of Fitial, Buckingham and GEC dated June 2012.

"From my initial review, it doesn't look like it's a firm contract. It was essentially memorialization of a desire of the Commonwealth government to avail of that technology but there are conditions precedent to entering into that contract like securing financing and studies, approval of the technology which has yet to be approved, and so forth. It's long ways from being a contract that can be executed in terms of the provisions but it is interesting that we have that," Inos told *Saipan Tribune* and KSPN 2 on Sunday.

Two months after the nuclear energy pre-deal document signing, or on Aug. 3, 2012, Fitial and Buckingham signed off on a sole-source, \$190.8-million diesel power purchase agreement with Saipan Development LLC. That PPA was for 25 years and involves a 50MW diesel power plant.

Fitial was impeached by the House of Representatives on 18 charges of corruption, neglect of duty and felony in connection with a host of issues that included the no-bid \$190.8-million PPA with SDLLC.

SHORTAGE

From Page 1

The remaining funds are barely enough for the school bus fleet's upkeep, which makes the acquisition of new schools buses totally out of the question.

Since the establishment of the Commonwealth Office of Public Transit Authority, PSS is no longer permitted to directly apply for grants from the Federal Transportation Administration.

Diaz disclosed that PSS has been directly applying and re-

ceiving FTA grants since 1990s with an average of \$1.1 million each fiscal year. These monies were used in procuring school buses and vans for all 19 schools on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota. Portion of these awards were also allocated for the vehicles' maintenance every year.

This school year, PSS has 17 functioning school buses for Saipan schools, while two each for Rota and Tinian schools. The last time PSS received an FTA grant was in fiscal year 2011.

Diaz said he is worried on the "impact" of this situation to

the students, who needed to be transported back and forth and to and from their homes daily. Each day, Diaz revealed that approximately 4,000 students are being transported in the morning trips alone.

"We will be experiencing the real impact of this (situation) beginning this school year because procurement and delivery of new vans and buses will totally stop, unless we secure local funding for this purpose," said Sablan, doubted that PSS will be provided the same funding assistance for new buses and maintenance by the lo-

cal appropriation.

He revealed that the local funding allocated for the pupil transportation department this fiscal year will mostly be utilized in paying for the salary of 34 personnel in three islands.

According to Diaz, the average lifespan of a school bus in the United States is up to 12 years. In the CNMI, due to its proximity to the ocean, a bus' life span is between five and seven years only.

He said in two to three years time, many school buses may no longer be in good running

condition besides the issue of lack of regular maintenance.

Last year, PSS unveiled a state-of-the-art bus depot in Lower Base using FTA awards amounting to \$1.5 million. Diaz is now worried how the facility will be maintained now that no specific allocation is identified for the purpose.

Former governor Benigno R. Fitial signed Public Law 17-43 in May 2011. This law created a new CNMI Office of Transit Authority within the Office of the Governor.

The new transit authority is

charged with establishing and overseeing a transportation system in the CNMI, and assessing the Commonwealth's transportation needs and developing a viable public transportation system. The new office is also the designated CNMI agency to review, apply, receive, manage and use federal grants from the FTA.

Diaz said yesterday that compared to beneficiaries of over 10,000 students at public schools, new FTA funds for a public transportation system will be of assistance to only a mere fraction of the PSS population.

Independent legal counsel for hospital sought

By **MONETH G. DEPOSA**
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REPORTER

Members of the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. board want to hire an independent legal counsel for the hospital, a direction that remains uncertain for now due to the existing provision of the law that created the corporation.

Corporation CEO Juan N. Babauta, during a meeting on March 15, disclosed that Public Law 16-51 which created the corporation and established its advisory board mandates the re-

quirement that its legal counsel must be appointed by the Office of Attorney Generals.

Babauta said based on the statute, even if the corporation gets an outside attorney, this counsel needs to be deputized by the OAG pursuant to the law.

He added that the same law stipulates that the salary of an independent counsel must be equal to what is being offered at OAG which ranges from \$45,000 to \$50,000 per annum.

During the same board meeting, vice chair Pedro Dela Cruz

expressed frustration on this revelation citing the need to seek a clarification on the matter from OAG itself.

"We don't need a fulltime counsel [here]. Why CHCC is different from other autonomous agencies like the Retirement Fund [which has its own counsels]? I want this issue be clarified," he told his colleagues.

The corporation board counsel at present is Allen Hazlip, who was appointed by the OAG. He replaced then counsel James Kearney whom the board earlier claimed had pro-

vided bad advice to the board pertaining to the then-contract of Idaho-based contractor International Consulting Services for the billing and collection services of the hospital.

The corporation had earlier accepted the service of an AG-appointed lawyer after Kearney because it has no other choice considering its financial constraints. The idea of tapping an outside counsel on per-need basis only, or some form of special arrangements was also expressed in previous board meetings.

Corporation and board officials sees the benefit to be derived if independent or in-house counsel will be hired, citing the critical role it played also in financial matters of the organization. Board officials had earlier claimed that AG, based on what happened on Marianas Public Land Trust loan issues, is not really an advocate of the corporation.

It can be recalled that the then-release of line of credit for corporation was delayed due to some documentations required by the OAG.

'Driver of fatal car crash is still alive'

Joseph Berki, the 22-year-old driver of a car that slammed into a power pole in the parking lot of the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium in Oleai that killed his girlfriend is still alive at the Commonwealth Health Center.

Department of Public Safety spokesman Sgt. Thomas Blas Jr. told *Saipan Tribune* over the weekend that Berki is awaiting his passport so he could be treated off-island.

"He is conscious and speaking to family members," Blas said in response to rumors that Berki had already passed away.

The victim was taken to the intensive care unit of CHC for back, neck and internal injuries.

Transportation Security Administration security officer Naomi Therese Deleon Guerrero Benjamin, 21, the passenger, died due to massive head injuries.

Police investigation showed that in the early morning of March 16 a Hyundai Genesis was heading south on Beach Road when Berki lost control, causing the vehicle to swerve into the parking lot of the Ada Gym and then slam into a power pole. The strong impact caused the car to overturn. The pole was toppled, triggering a power outage for several hours in the San Jose area.

Investigators determined that alcohol and speed were factors in the crash. (*Ferdie de la Torre*)

Zoning OKs hardware conditional permit



CLARISSA V. DAVID

Zoning board member Bruce Bateman, left, shows Hong Ye Hardware representative Greg Camacho the conditions for their approved permit to operate a warehouse in San Antonio. Also in photo is project engineer Noli Villacrusis.

By **CLARISSA V. DAVID**
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Commonwealth Zoning Board approved Thursday the conditional use permit allowing Hong Ye Hardware to operate a warehouse in San Antonio where it can store its construction materials and supplies.

The warehouse will be on an existing structure on lot

550 New-12 on Afetna Road, an area zoned as Mixed Commercial.

Except for Alice Igitol who was absent at the meeting, all board members unanimously approved application #2011-5950 as recommended by the Zoning Office with certain conditions to be met by the applicant.

These conditions include ensuring that applicant will

not generate noise, light, or dust that will affect the neighborhood; compliance with Division of Environmental Quality requirements on storm water management and deploy measures to prevent flooding; and application of landscaping where necessary.

Representing Hong Ye Hardware at the meeting were owner Zheng Shao Wei, com-

pany representative Greg Camacho, and project engineer Noli Villacrusis.

"Hopefully we're not going to be coming back again soon for another hearing," said Camacho.

Hong Ye Hardware's conditional use permit application resulted from a need to comply with the requirements set by Zoning Office after the company was issued a notice of violation failure to build ample parking space in its premises across from Bank of Saipan.

The board approved during its Jan. 17 meeting to waive the NOV (notice of violation) fine of \$2,250 for two years, during which Hong Ye Hardware would address the violation. Failure to do so would result to a steeper fine of \$10,000.

Camacho said the company plans to store its materials and supplies in the San Antonio warehouse while it undergoes the construction project.

"We are really in a hurry to go ahead with this and complete it because we are also anticipating bad weather," said Camacho, adding that it will take time to move all their merchandise down to the new warehouse.

Board chair Diego Blanco questioned why the applicant

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**INVITATION TO BID
ITB13-DEQ-094 (ROTA)**

SUBMISSION/OPENING DATE: APRIL 11, 2013 • TIME: 11:00 A.M.

**"OFFICE SPACE LEASE FOR THE DIVISION OF
ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY – ROTA BRANCH"**

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE PICKED-UP AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR, DIVISION OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY, LOWER BASE DR., SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

THE LESSOR MUST COMPLY WITH CNMI PUBLIC LAW 15-23, ARTICLE 5, SECTION 8652 (A) – (D).

THE COMMONWEALTH RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL BIDS AND PROPOSALS; IN WHOLE OR IN PART, AND TO WAVE ANY IMPERFECTION IN A BID IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS. ALL BIDS SHALL BECOME THE PROPERTY OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

/S/ FRANK M. RABAILIMAN
SECRETARY OF DEQ

/S/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
DIRECTOR, P&S



CLARISSA V. DAVID

Hong Ye Hardware representative Greg Camacho, standing, addresses the Commonwealth Zoning Board during a meeting on March 21. Looking on are company owner Zheng Shao Wei and project engineer Noli Villacrusis.

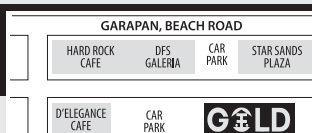
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CLARISSA V. DAVID

Ministry and school officials of the Saipan Seventh-day Adventist School lead dignitaries in the ribbon cutting ceremony to mark the school's transfer to its new campus in Chalan Kiya on Friday.

SDA moves to new campus

» School receives \$200K in pledges for property purchase

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Saipan Seventh-day Adventist School will continue to promote Christian education among students in its new campus.

From its San Antonio site, Saipan SDA School moved to a more spacious campus in Chalan Kiya. The location was the former location of the Calvary Christian Academy which closed down in June 2012.

School officials, staff, and students welcomed guests in the new campus during a grand opening and ribbon cutting ceremony held Friday morning.

Treasurer Charles Reel of the Guam-Micronesia Mission, the administrative region of SDAs in the western Pacific, noted in his remarks the importance of location in the school's efforts to uphold Christian education on island.

"We felt that even though we're maximizing what we could in our old location, it may not be the best location for how we wanted to grow the school," Reel told his audience as he recounted how the new campus had come about.

He said it was Dr. Kenneth Pierson, Saipan SDA School board chair and SDA Clinic director, who brought the idea to the table and got others to explore the recommendation of taking over the former CCA property.

"The one thing we knew was that this beautiful piece of property was absolutely perfect for what we do and what we need. It's a school," said Reel.

Thus began discussions and negotiations in the latter part of 2012, starting with the Bank of Guam which was holding the note for the property, Reel said as he emphasized their commitment to education and ministry.

"But money always seems to be the holdback. So we told Bank of Guam that we're willing to make them an offer at a fraction of the price," said Reel, describing the offer as only a quarter of the property's mortgage value.

Bank of Guam came back with a counter offer which the school took. Further "rollercoaster" negotiations were conducted, and more deadlines were met, leading to the school finalizing the property acquisition toward the end of December 2012.

"I believe all this happened with



Saipan Seventh-day Adventist students sing a song for the crowd.

CLARISSA V. DAVID

God's guidance and leading," added Pierson.

The Chalan Kiya campus, which has expansive grounds featuring a building that contains a dozen classrooms and a basketball court, is now home to Saipan SDA School. By late summer, the new campus will also accommodate SDA's Child Development Center.

"We hope and pray that we can continue with our work in ministry and education on this island through this property," said Reel.

Dignitaries congratulated the school management and ministry officials in celebrating Friday's occasion.

"This is a milestone that the faculty, staff and students can be proud of and I, too, am proud of this wonderful accomplishment that you have achieved. I believe that your relocation to a bigger school is the result of your dedication to continuously provide quality instruction, godly spiritual guidance to the students and all the hard work by the administration to meet faculty and student needs," said Mayor Donald G. Flores.

For her part, Education Commissioner Rita A. Sablan, Ph.D. acknowledged the challenge and difficulty in promoting education without a spiritual aspect.

"You certainly have been blessed," Sablan said, adding that the new campus marks a new beginning for Saipan SDA School to enjoy a very beautiful and refreshing environment in motivating its students and carrying on its commitment to further Christian education on island.

During the event, Saipan SDA School received letters of monetary pledges to assist them in paying off the loan to purchase the new property. Guam-Micronesia Mission committed \$100,000 while Hope for Humanity and the Adventist Education North American Division each pledged \$50,000 to assist the school in the purchase of the new property.

"May God have all the glory for all of this," said school principal Sharon Nguyen after accepting the letters.

Friday's attendees enjoyed a healthy potluck lunch immediately after the ceremony.



CLARISSA V. DAVID

Students of Saipan Seventh-day Adventist School perform for the audience.

Retiree says govt circumventing federal court's order

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
ferdie_deltorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Retiree Betty Johnson yesterday accused the CNMI government of circumventing the federal court's order by enacting Public Law 18-2 that compels the NMI Retirement Fund to release up to 50 percent of members' contributions within 30 days of submitting a refund

application.

Johnson, through counsels Margery Bronster and Bruce L. Jorgensen, said P.L. 18-2, which was enacted on March 11, 2013, was expressly intended to circumvent U.S. District Court for the NMI designated judge Frances Tydingco-Gatewood's order issued on Jan. 18, 2013.

In the Jan. 18 order, Tydingco-Gatewood said that, in light

of the anticipated settlement conference in Johnson's lawsuit, and in the interest of judicial economy, the court will hold all other pending motions in abeyance until the settlement process is completed.

In Johnson's emergency and for clarification motions filed in court, Bronster said although the Jan. 18 order was undoubtedly well known to

the CNMI, the CNMI government nevertheless proceeded to seek to circumvent the order and force the Fund to make immediate distributions to current employees.

"Public Law 18-2 unilaterally seeks to nullify the court's Jan. 18 order and remove the issue from the settlement process," Bronster said.

Public Law 18-2, the lawyer

said, is moreover an action by the CNMI, a party to the case, who has been ordered to participate in the settlement process in good faith and in accordance with the court's orders.

Bronster said the court should clarify that its Jan. 18 order applies to P.L. 18-2 in order to protect the efficacy of the settlement process.

In her lawsuit, Johnson asked

the court to order the Fund and the CNMI government to collect Superior Court Associate Judge Kenneth L. Govendo's judgment, pay or bring current all CNMI obligations to the Fund, and distribute appropriate retirement benefits.

Betty Johnson named as defendants then governor Benigno R. Fitial, the CNMI government, and other co-defendants.

Soccer clinics expand to Head Start centers



CLARISSA V. DAVID

Saipan Soccer School's Jerishwin Angeles, Mae Ito, and Irish Pagarao join the morning class at the San Antonio Head Start Center for a group photo before the start of the soccer clinic on March 21.

By **CLARISSA V. DAVID**
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

More young students on Saipan will benefit from soccer clinics conducted by Saipan Soccer School as it expands its community service to other Head Start Centers on island.

For the first time on Thursday, Saipan Soccer School's Jerishwin Angeles, Mae Ito, and Irish Pagarao administered age-appropriate drills for the learn-

ers at San Antonio Head Start Center's morning and afternoon classes under teachers Juana Atalig and Sarah Serrano.

All 34 students were very excited about last week's event, said Atalig, as they were introduced to new vocabulary, met new people, and learned about soccer movements while enjoying its socio-emotional benefits.

Atalig said that while they have regular outdoor activities, a new kind of learning

activity such as soccer would be good for the students since it will encourage them to become more active and adopt a healthy lifestyle.

Besides conducting soccer drills, the Saipan Soccer School also donated 10 soccer balls to the center.

"Thank you so much. We could not be more grateful. This would open a lot of doors for the students," Atalig told *Saipan Tribune*.

The Saipan Soccer School is

expected to donate soccer balls and conduct soccer clinics to other Head Start Centers but it will have to wait until after the students' spring break, said Ito. Included in the lineup are the Chalan Kanoa and Joaquina M. Rabauliman Head Start Centers.

Ito said they feel very happy that the soccer clinics have been a huge hit among the centers.

"We are very happy and we feel appreciated from the positive feedbacks we get from the students and the



CLARISSA V. DAVID

Five-year-old Obama Siech, right, smiles as he eyes the soccer ball as classmate Nicholas Abendan, 4, and Saipan Soccer School's Irish Pagarao look on.

teachers," she said.

Ito added that the success of these soccer clinics helps their organization in its efforts

to reach out to the community to provide opportunities that promote the sport among the youth.



CLARISSA V. DAVID

Young students at San Antonio Head Start Center take part in age-appropriate drills and activities conducted by Saipan Soccer School staff last Thursday morning.

MICHAEL A. WHITE, ESQ. F0122
THE LAW OFFICES OF
MICHAEL A. WHITE, LLC
POST OFFICE BOX 5222
SAIPAN, MARIANA ISLANDS 96950
TEL: (670) 234-6547
FAX: (670) 234-9537

ATTORNEYS FOR Plaintiff

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE
COMMONWEALTH OF THE
NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

In the Matter of the Estate of	CIVIL ACTION NO. 05-0113 D
ESTEBAN RASIANG NIGIS, Deceased.	SEVENTH AMENDED NOTICE OF SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, pursuant to an Order issued by the Court in this matter on April 16, 2008, I will sell, at public auction, to the highest bidder, on the terms and conditions set forth hereinbelow, all the right, title, and interest of Defendant in and to the following property: Tract No. 22703-3 containing an area of 1,484 square meters, more or less.

Date, Time, and Place of Sale. The sale will be held on Friday, April 5, 2013, at the hour of 1:30 p.m., at The Law Offices of Michael A. White, LLC, Joeten Center, Susupe, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands. The sale will be open to the general public.

Terms and Conditions of Sale. The Terms and Conditions of Sale may be obtained from the undersigned, either prior to or at the sale. These terms and conditions shall govern the conduct of the sale.

DATED, this 11th day of March, 2013:

/s/ MICHAEL A. WHITE, Auctioneer

MICHAEL A. WHITE, ESQ. F0122
THE LAW OFFICES OF MICHAEL A. WHITE, LLC
POST OFFICE BOX 5222
SAIPAN, MARIANA ISLANDS 96950
TEL: (670) 234-6547
FAX: (670) 234-9537

ATTORNEYS FOR Plaintiff

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE
COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN
MARIANA ISLANDS

NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION, Plaintiff,	CIVIL ACTION NO. 11-0033
-v-	FIRST AMENDED NOTICE OF SALE
TERESE LIZAMA SALAS, Defendant.	

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, pursuant to an Order issued by the Court in this matter on October 14, 2011, I will sell, at public auction, to the highest bidder, on the terms and conditions set forth hereinbelow, all the right, title, and interest of Defendant in and to the following property: Lot No. 011 G 459, situated in Kagman III, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, containing an area of 800 square meters, more or less, as shown on the Division of Lands and Surveys Official Cadastral Plat No. 011 G 09, dated December 1, 1993, Commonwealth Recorder's File No. 93-4176, the description therein being incorporated herein by reference.

Date, Time, and Place of Sale. The sale will be held on Friday, April 12, 2013, at the hour of 1:30 p.m., at The Law Offices of Michael A. White, LLC, Joeten Center, Susupe, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands. The sale will be open to the general public.

Terms and Conditions of Sale. The Terms and Conditions of Sale may be obtained from the undersigned, either prior to or at the sale. These terms and conditions shall govern the conduct of the sale.

DATED, this 14th day of March, 2013:

/s/ MICHAEL A. WHITE, Auctioneer

MICHAEL A. WHITE, ESQ. F0122
THE LAW OFFICES OF MICHAEL A. WHITE, LLC
POST OFFICE BOX 5222
SAIPAN, MARIANA ISLANDS 96950
TEL: (670) 234-6547
FAX: (670) 234-9537

ATTORNEYS FOR Plaintiff

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE
COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN
MARIANA ISLANDS

NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION, Plaintiff,	CIVIL ACTION NO. 11-0322
-v-	FIRST AMENDED NOTICE OF SALE
HILBERT HENRY C. SAN NICOLAS, Defendant.	

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, pursuant to an Order issued by the Court in this matter on October 5, 2012, I will sell, at public auction, to the highest bidder, on the terms and conditions set forth hereinbelow, all the right, title, and interest of Defendant in and to the following property: Lot No. 008 T 266, situated in Marpo Heights, Tinian, Northern Mariana Islands, containing an area of 812 square meters, more or less, as shown on the DLS Check No. 008 T 03, dated March 31, 1999, Commonwealth Recorder's File No. 99-848 dated March 31, 1999, the description therein being incorporated herein by reference.

Date, Time, and Place of Sale. The sale will be held on Friday, April 12, 2013, at the hour of 1:30 p.m., at The Law Offices of Michael A. White, LLC, Joeten Center, Susupe, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands. The sale will be open to the general public.

Terms and Conditions of Sale. The Terms and Conditions of Sale may be obtained from the undersigned, either prior to or at the sale. These terms and conditions shall govern the conduct of the sale.

DATED, this 14th day of March, 2013:

/s/ MICHAEL A. WHITE, Auctioneer

Marilyn D. Manalo
P.O. Box 502045
Saipan, MP 96950
Telephone No. (670) 285-9778

pro se

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE
COMMONWEALTH OF THE
NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

In Re The Matter Of The Petition To Appoint Josie Marilyn D. Manalo As Legal Guardian For::	FCD GU CIVIL ACTION NO. 13-0122
J.M.M. (d.o.d. 3/3/2002) Minor Child,	NOTICE OF HEARING
By:	
MARILYN DEJUMO MANALO Petitioner	

Notice is hereby given that the above-entitled matter is set for a hearing on May 09, 2013, at 10:30a.m. in Courtroom 205A, before Associate Judge Kenneth L. Govendo.

Dated this 20th day of March, 2013.

PATRICK V. DIAZ
Clerk of Court
/s/ Deputy Clerk of Court

Inos to proclaim April Environmental Awareness Month

April officially becomes Environmental Awareness Month in CNMI on April 2, when Gov. Eloy S. Inos signs a proclamation highlighting the importance of personal action in maintaining a healthy environment.

The declaration "calls each of us to do our part to enhance our beautiful islands, and to understand that our actions impact not only ourselves, but the land we live on, the air we breathe, and the oceans surrounding us."

This year's theme is *Todo i nila 'la i tano, tasi yan aire man uno, or Alongal malaaw wóol fahúiw, sáát me yáang nge re eew*, or "All life of the land, sea, and air are one."

Division of Environmental Quality staff along with partners at the Division of Fish and Wildlife, Coastal Resources Management, and American Memorial Park, are hard at work coordinating a month filled with exciting opportunities to learn about the environment that sustains us. And don't forget—Earth Day is April 22! What will you do to give back? Write your pledge on the CNMI Division of Environmental Quality

Facebook page.

Environmental Awareness Month events:

■ **Tag a sea turtle at Fishing Base with DFW!**—April 2 and 4, 11am—Come watch and learn how DFW tags sea turtles to learn more about their lives and how to better protect them! See a sea turtle up close and personal! Contact Tammy Summers at tammymaesummers@yahoo.com.

■ **Host a film festival!**—Any community group, school, or other organization can sponsor a showing (free of charge) of one of more than 20 environmental documentaries. For a complete list of films, and to coordinate a screening, contact Kaity Mattos at kaitlinmattos@deq.gov.mp.

■ **Environmental EXPO at American Memorial Park, April 16, 17, 18**—All of Saipan's 4th and 5th grade classes have been invited to attend this year's Environmental Expo where representatives from a variety of environmental management agencies and organizations will be presenting about their work and how

it affects the environment and student's day to day lives. AMP is coordinating directly with the schools for this event. For more information contact Avra Heller at avrahellerdeq@gmail.com.

■ **Island Wide Cleanup**—April 26 from 3pm to 4:30pm and April 27 from 8am to 10am. Please contact coordinator Leilani S. Deleon Guerrero at 664-8500 to find out how to get involved!

Contests:

Win cool prizes! Or just come out to cheer on your friends!

■ **Trash In Fashion Show**—April 25 at the Hard Rock Cafe. High school students will design and craft original high-fashion clothing entirely out of recycled material. Contact Olivia Tebuteb Tenorio at 664-8500.

■ **Recycled Boat Race**—April 20—Everyone should join in!—make a boat out of recycled materials and get it (in one piece with at least one passenger) across the finish line at Kilili Beach. Contact Cal Westergard at calwestergard@deq.gov.mp.

■ **CRM's "Where Does Trash Go?" photo competi-**

tion—Take your cameras and phones on a mission to answer the question, where does trash go? Submit up to three photos in this year's Environmental Awareness Month's digital photo contest (deadline April 26). All ages are welcome to compete for great prizes! Submit your entries to Coastal Resources Management or e-mail them to nicole.schafer@crmsaipan.com.

■ **Our Laolao photo competition**—details on the Our Laolao Facebook, entries due April 19! <https://www.facebook.com/OurLaolao>. Or contact Rachelle Muna at rachellemuna@gmail.com.

Check out www.crmsaipan.com or www.deq.gov.mp for more details or contact EAM chair Avra Heller at avrahellerdeq@gmail.com. (PR)

United launches Windows Phone 8 mobile app

CHICAGO—United Airlines has introduced a new application for Windows Phone 8 users that puts their important travel information at their fingertips. With the app, United customers can book reservations—including reward travel—check in for flights, access mobile boarding passes, monitor flight status details and view their MileagePlus frequent flyer accounts.

"United's new app takes full advantage of the innovative features and unique design of the Windows Phone 8 platform," said Scott Wilson, United's vice president of merchandising and e-commerce. "We continue to invest in technology that offers travelers more options and



convenience. United's robust website and mobile travel tools enable our customers to get the information they need, buy the products they want and choose services they desire when and where they want."

"Apps come to life on Windows Phone, thanks to features like Live Tiles and lockscreen notifications," said Todd Brix, general manager, Windows Phone Apps, Microsoft Corp. "United Airlines takes advantage of these features and more to enable users to quickly access all of their travel information in one glance."

Additional features of the new United app include support for Windows Phone Live Tiles for flight status updates directly on the Start screen, United social media networking information, access to United timetables, Flight View, which shows flight maps and weather status, and Sudoku games.

The United Windows Phone 8 app is available from the Windows Phone Store. (United Airlines)

Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

Mar. 26, 2004

Fund seeing \$1.2M shortfall in govt payments per month

The NMI Retirement Fund stands to realize a funding shortfall of \$15.6 million for each year the government does not turn over the required employer contribution payments to the Fund. According to Fund Administrator Karl T. Reyes, the \$800,000 the government pays in contributions every pay period hardly suffices in meeting the needed Fund collections. He said the actual amount that the Fund is supposed to collect each pay period is \$1.4 million—a difference of \$600,000 per pay period or \$1.2 million per month. Such a shortfall could easily jack up the government's unfunded liability to the Fund, which has reportedly ballooned to \$400 million.

CPA to review terminal fee proposal

The Commonwealth Ports Authority has explored all possible avenues to remedy its continued revenue shortfall at the Airport Division that resulted in several years of inability to meet its debt service obligation, executive director Carlos H. Salas said yesterday. This came on the heels of Rep. Timothy Villagomez's proposal to the CPA to reconsider the implementation of the Passenger Facility Charge that would impose a \$4.50 fee on all outbound passengers at CNMI airports. But still, Salas said, the CPA Board of Directors will discuss today Villagomez's proposal to defer the implementation of the PFC in light of the slow rebound of the tourism industry. "We have considered everything. We explored everything, that's why we had the rate study. But we would still sit down and discuss this [Villagomez proposal] and we would comment based on the Board's decision," explained Salas. The CPA Board would be holding its membership meeting today at the Saipan Seaport conference room at 10am.

Mar. 26, 2005

Adriano: Reduce House members

To save on costs, a lawmaker is amendable to reducing the number of House membership—but not the Senate. Senate President Joaquin G. Adriano said his suggestion is better than pursuing a House-initiated bill that aims to make the CNMI Legislature a part-time body. "It's much better if we reduce the number of House of Representatives [members] and maintain the present status of the Senate," said Adriano, noting that the upper house's nine members equally represent all the senatorial districts. The Senate consists of three members from each senatorial district: Rota, Tinian, and Saipan. The House of Representatives has 18 members who are elected by district.

CUC rejects offer of waiver on govt debt

The Commonwealth Utilities Corp. has rejected a proposal by the Department of Finance to waive the government's outstanding bills. Finance Secretary Fermin Atalig made the request on Nov. 12, 2004 in an effort to end the longstanding dispute between CUC and CNMI government over the Commonwealth's alleged multi-million debt to the utility. The government has brought the matter to court, claiming that CUC had actually been overcharging the Commonwealth by millions of dollars.

Mar. 26, 2006

CPA to get \$1.6M from insurance providers

The Commonwealth Ports Authority stands to receive a total of \$1.6 million in insurance claims arising from damage to its seaport facilities during the onslaught of Super Typhoon Chaba in 2004. The CPA board has approved the settlement offer regarding the insurance claim. Of the \$1.6 million the CPA will get, some \$300,000 has already been paid. CPA board members who were present in Thursday meeting at the Saipan seaport-acting chair Antonio Camacho, directors Barbara Yamada and Serafin Dela Cruz, and treasurer Benigno Fejeran-unanimously voted to accept the settlement offer.

CDA asked to evaluate CUC privatization

The Fitial administration has asked the Commonwealth Development Authority's board to evaluate the possibility of a privatized Commonwealth Utilities Corp., according to CDA chair Tom Glenn A. Quitugua. This took place when the CDA board still had a quorum, shortly before members were asked to resign their posts recently. "We discussed it when we had a quorum. It's one of the issues that we looked at regarding CUC," said Quitugua in an interview. Quitugua earlier disclosed that Lt. Gov. Tim P. Villagomez met with the CDA board, urging them to sit down with CUC and help it resolve its financial problems.



ZONING MEETING

The directors of the Commonwealth Zoning Board conduct a meeting on March 21 at the Zoning Office in Dandan.

CLARISSA V. DAVID

SPC supports nat'l efforts to eliminate TB in the Pacific

NOUMEA—The theme for this year's World TB Day—Stop TB in my lifetime—challenges us to strengthen the region's efforts to rid itself of the dreaded disease.

"There have been numerous achievements in tuberculosis (TB) management in the region in the past decade, and countries and partners should be proud of these. However, challenges remain, and we must keep the momentum going if we are ever to move toward elimination," said Kerri Viney, acting TB adviser at the Secretariat of the Pacific Community.

Pacific Island countries and territories (PICTs) are now picking up and successfully treating more cases of TB than in previous years. According to World Health Organization estimates, there were 16,534 new cases of TB in the Pacific in 2011.

"At the national level, however, the situation is mixed. In some countries the number of TB cases has increased significantly

in recent years, and in others it is decreasing," added Viney.

"SPC assists PICTs in their efforts towards the elimination of tuberculosis in the region, in collaboration with regional partners and donors. We do this by making sure that there are sufficient resources for effective TB management, providing technical assistance when needed, and supporting research efforts to better manage and reduce the burden of TB."

For example, SPC assisted the Kiribati Ministry of Health and Medical Services to develop a three-year project to improve TB diagnosis and treatment and provide much needed infrastructure for the national TB program.

"In Kiribati, TB is currently running at very high levels of more than 300 cases per 100,000 people, but we are seeing a gradual reduction in the rate and we hope that we will bring it to a manageable level

by the end of this project," said Dr Takeieta Kienene, Kiribati National TB Programme senior advisor.

In 2012, SPC worked hard to strengthen operational research capacity, which includes collaboration with other health programs.

"People with TB also suffer from other diseases, especially diabetes, and in the region we are trying to raise awareness about the association between the two diseases, so that patient care is improved," said Viney.

A number of research activities looking at how TB and diabetes can be better managed are currently under way in Kiribati, the Marshall Islands, and the Federated States of Micronesia.

All these projects and activities are carried out in close collaboration with national governments, WHO, the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and the International Union Against Tuberculosis and Lung Disease. (SPC)

Island Snapshots

CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS



SWEEPSTAKES TROPHY WINNER

The proud members of the Marianas High School's Glee Club Rhythm 'N Harmony and Chorale Group during their excellent performance at the recent Tumon Bay Music Festival held in Guam early this month.



For two years in a row, MHS Rhythm 'N Harmony was hailed the festival's overall champion and received the prestigious Sweepstakes Trophy.



MHS chorale members smile for the camera.



MHS chorale director Ruthie Fruit plays the piano.



MHS chorale member Arianna Brown.



Chorale member Kristine Valencia.



Kristine Valencia, Arianna Brown, and Janlane Imperial strike a pose.



MHS chorale member Ramon Herrera.



MHS Glee Club's Darren Cajipo.



MHS Glee Club's Grace Barro.



MHS Glee Club's Janella Nelmda.



MHS Glee Club musical director Paul Dujua.

Opinion

Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune

THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER
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Mailing Address: PMB 34, Box 10001, Saipan, MP 96950Jayvee L. Vallejera EDITOR
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MEMBER

AP The Associated Press

Pacific Islands News Association

EDITORIAL

Cuba's Black Spring remembered

Ten years ago this week, Cuba cracked down on independent journalists, librarians and other opposition leaders.

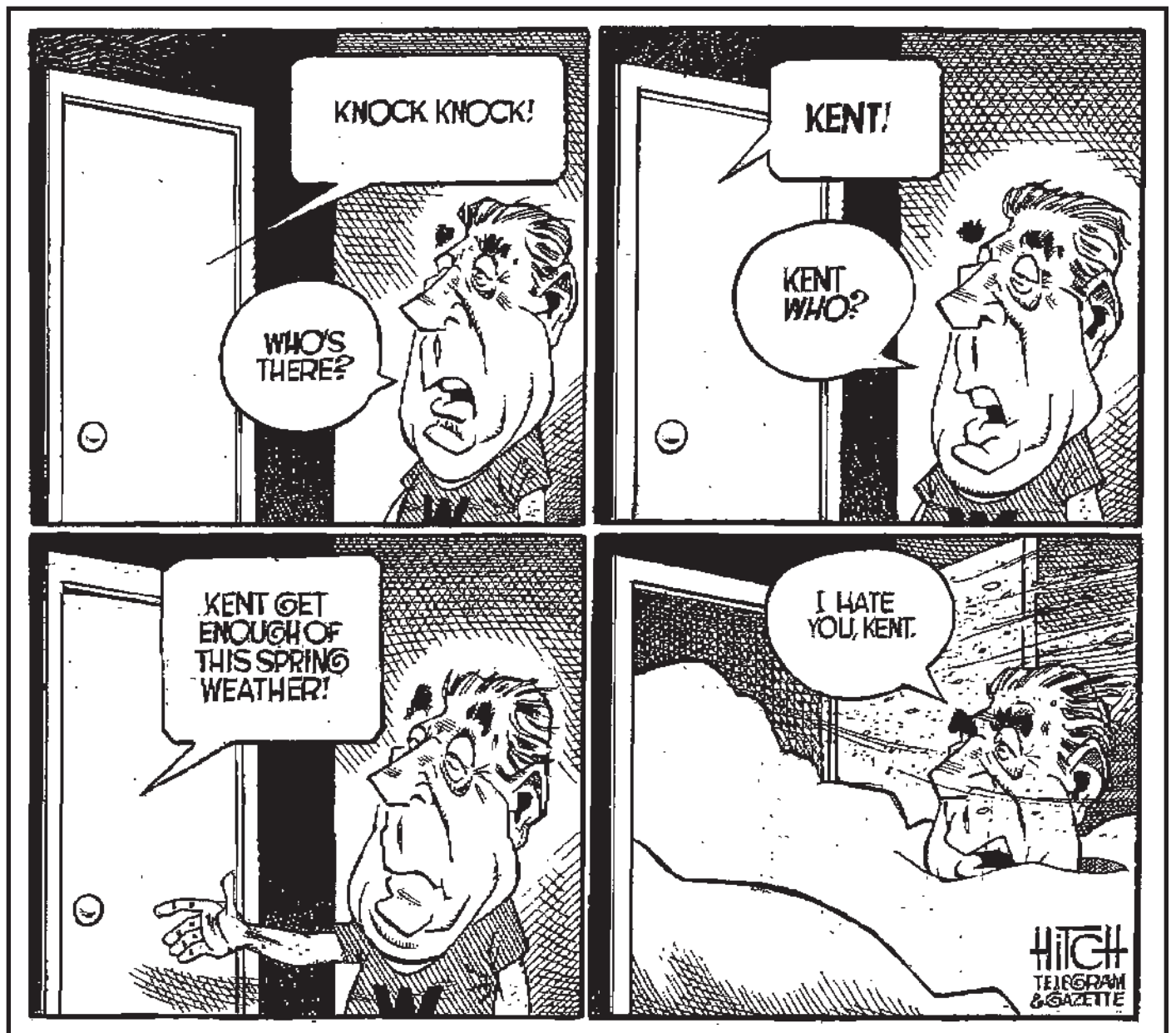
Many of the 75 Cubans locked up during Cuba's Black Spring belonged to the Christian Liberation Movement, a group formed by Oswaldo Paya to collect signatures for his Varela Project to open up communist Cuba.

The regime's show trials of those 75 brave Cubans tried to turn free-thinkers into U.S. "mercenaries"—an attempt to scare Cubans from sharing their viewpoints of a crumbling government unwilling to allow political parties or free elections or freedom of speech.

Now 10 years later, Mr. Paya is dead, along with another opposition leader, Harold Cepero, both killed in a crash last year in a car driven by Angel Carromero, a Spaniard who was helping Mr. Paya uncover human-rights violations. Mr. Carromero, now serving his Cuba-imposed sentence for vehicular manslaughter in Spain, has spoken up now that he's out of the island gulag. He says, as many already feared, that his car was being followed by Cuban state security, which slammed his car into a ditch. He also says he was drugged while in a Cuban prison so that he would remain mum.

Sen. Bill Nelson wants the United Nations to investigate what happened to Cuba's most well-known dissident. Surely, that's the least that can be done to bring justice to Mr. Paya.

(c)2013 The Miami Herald



Tuesday's temple tour

Raised in mainline Reformation tradition of Christendom, steep in Biblical scholarship where we became clear that the paper idolatry reflected in the "Bible says" syndrome is an aberration rather than the rule, we were spared the literalism that bedevils many of fellow wayfarers on the footsteps of the carpenter from Galilee.

I will assume that the reader has a healthy appreciation of the Biblical stories but is in no way attached to the nit-picking, verse-quoting, authority-seeking user of holy writ. As far as the Biblos (literally, many books) is concerned, the writings took more than a century to accomplish covering more than two centuries of memory, meant to be rich in metaphor on the spiritual journey of the writers, but not in today's sense of accounts of events. Nor is it similar to a document that showed up mysteriously in the hands of the Prophet Mohammed as told by some about the Koran, or of the Book of Mormons of Joseph Smith in upstate New York before his colleagues took off for Missouri and Utah.

The Gospels of the New Testament are four of possible 50 gospel writings about Jesus, decided to be canonical 300 years after the fact. The earliest account we have of Mark was written two generations after the event, seen from the perspective of a defeated people after the Romans sacked Jerusalem in AD 72.

The dramaturgy evolved from the incarnate baby Jesus in a manger (Matthew and Luke) through the transcendent perspective of humans distancing themselves from the demands of their bodies (we now observe a 40-day fast called Lent from the Medieval age), to the full engagement of the blessed chosen person into the plain of history we call the Holy (wholesome) Week; from the triumphant entry into Jerusalem to the victory of the empty tomb, preceded by the earthiness of a common meal and a wrenching Friday afternoon crucifixion affirming a resurrection back to Galilee and on to glory.

These are language of drama, not history. We do not always remember that the "nevertheless" story of grace between the hosanna palm fronds on the entry to Jerusalem to the common meal in the Upper Room, into the third hour afternoon on Friday, have since been symbolized in the High Mass as the Eucharist.

Let's recap. Incarnate is the perspective of the "I," of each of us born free and winsome creative individuals who are one out of two million sperms mysteriously chosen by an ovum to create one, unique, unrepeatable gift of humanity of which, there

By JAIME VERGARA

Special to the Saipan Tribune

Jaime R. Vergara (jrvergarajr2031@aol.com) is a former PSS teacher and is currently writing from the campus of Shenyang Aerospace University in China.



was none like it before, and there will never be another one like it ever again. The "it" that "I" am, is somebody. So are "you"!

Transcendence is the perspective of the Greeks' "theos" (God) from the heights of Mt. Olympus. In our time, that would be from the farthest reaches of the Hubble telescope. From that perspective, we are not even a pixel in the HDTV of life. Our planet is but the third rock to the sun in a stellar solar system minuscule in the Milky Way, shadowed by the Andromeda giant next door, and we haven't taken the trillion of light years perspective yet. "I" am clearly a nobody in the universal scheme of things.

History is the "human" perspective. The somebody that is "I" and the nobody that is "me" are merged in the historical "we" of which "I am" a finite part. The human perspective, BTW, is recent, perhaps, no more than 10,000 years in a planet that is 4.3 billion years old. This is where the story of the Jesus the Christ journey fits. His story is carried by a group of people who call themselves the "ecclesia," the household of God (the theos, of the transcendent view). We might want to get clear that the word "Christ" is not the last name of Jesus; it is the role his disciples confessed he played, and the one his followers are to play as well.

My Christian reflection today is the practical implication of this week's story, particularly on the account's Tuesday of that Holy Week before the nightmares of Gethsemane. The book of Luke quotes Jesus saying: "It is written, my house will be a house of prayer, but you have made it 'a den of robbers'" (NIV light edition).

Less we take the easy way out, gloss over this part of the story by piously going back to the portals of the temple and demonizing the taxman, we might look at it from the perspective of 2013, and ask the question: who in our time is demeaning persons just

See TEMPLE on Next Page

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Finapos Tradision

I lugat mame gi kanton tasin Lali Fo' riku estoriaña. Deste lugat selebrasion San Isidro kada sakan, dinaña man-maestron peska, ayudun mapatten kineni' chenchulu gi familia siha gi bisinu yan estorian antigu ginen man-amku'.

Guaha siha fina' kamalen boten galaide 'nai makanana' talaya, chenchulu yan trastes peska siha. Diariu sessu hu fagcha'e malimiendan entre talaya 'sino chenchulu. Ayu 'nai hu tuñgu na gai botsa i chenchulu 'nai mapepega i kineni' guihan mientras masesera i uttimu pañu.

Gi halom kamalen, guaha lokue fog'gun ni ma-estiraye alamle gi sanhilu'. Ilegña un' amku' na ayu 'nai matatala' sinahan guihañ piot gi tiempun uchan. Paire na totche kau matunu, ma-afritu 'sino makatdun niyog. Piot ya saubog sune 'sino chodan tanduke gachonña, esta tutuhu' siempre tila'mu ' gi maigo'mu dispues de minachom atdau.

Ayu lokue' 'nai umeyag-yu haf' trastes peska deste fisga, pachiniko', togcha', difirientes minedonñ haguetañ linedu' kutdet. Kontodu peskan tekin, gigau yan etupag kanton unai yan padiron. Sige pagu i maestron peska adumididi' man-mafanu'e i manhoben siha.

Masoñge teñga i fugera (bond fire) gi kanton unai. Sige pagu i famaguon man-hugandu mientras i man-amku' duru lokue' estorian grasia siha.

Hu gef agradesi ayu na patte gi hineben mame sa' ti man-mana'e ham guihañ para bai'n kanu'. Man-mafanague man-peska kosake siña mañochu ham guihañ katkuet oran nesessidat sentadan familia.

Todu presisu na bai'n tiñgu' pot linala' man-mabasiha giya hame. Mafattu todo inapagat gi hilu' antau yan kariñosu na finu' mañainan mame. Ginen ayu na kantun tasi 'nai huhuñgog antigosu siha pot kutturán yan tradision natibu gi todú atmos banda.

Pot todus, hasan gi entre i tropa gai problema pot pikatdia. Guse'ña man-arikeho ham gi lemlim tautau man-panag guihañ para tininun mame gi minachom atdau.

On Syria, France leads

RUSSELS, Belgium—France and Britain are pressing the European Union to end its embargo on arms for the Syrian opposition, in the hope that they can encourage President Obama to follow their lead.

French and British leaders' frustration with U.S. waffling on Syria was palpable in Brussels last week. As the flood of refugees from Syria grew to tsunami levels, threatening to destabilize much of the region, French President Francois Hollande declared bluntly, "The biggest risk is inaction."

Secretary of State John Kerry said Washington won't stand in the way of its allies' moves to arm the opposition, but the administration still refuses to provide mainstream Syrian rebel groups with weapons—even as radical Islamists obtain money and guns.

The French make a convincing case that this position should be rethought.

"We believe there will only be a way out when the military situation on the ground changes," said the French Foreign Ministry's director of policy planning, Justin Vaisse, at the Brussels Forum, an annual conference organized by the German Marshall Fund of the United States.

Vaisse said the current European Union embargo on arms for the rebels was backfiring. Regime forces get weapons from Iran and Russia, while the moderate opposition often lacks bullets. The regime can bomb and shell Syrian civilians with impunity, with more than 70,000 Syrians dead so far.

"The arms embargo is now backfiring," Vaisse said emphatically. "The playing field is not level. The opposition is fighting with hands tied behind back."

"This is why Great Britain and France will ask for an end to the

Ge'katan Tanapag

Gi un' gupot linahyan 'nai hu li'e primet biahe kineni' man-dañkulu siha na hag'gan. I peskadot umaregla preparasion putahen fritadan hag'gan. Ai na pairen totche na esta guahu ha' malili'e ni peskadot gi fihun i guafe 'nai mapega kara' tatalu' hag'gan.

Dispues, sigeyu' umentalu' man-amku' 'nai hu huñgog dispues na ayu na grupon Karolinas ginen otu patte giya Chuuk. Kontodu finu' niha ti parehu yan regulat na finu' Karolinas lichan. Lau paire dobladan niha piot gi finu' grasia siha. Manpaire lokue' lalachen niha gi offisiun tasi.

Tanu' Natibu

Deste hinalom niha Marianas, i Karolinas mañaga gi kanton tasi pot sessu man-peska para mantension familia. Mas usun niha i tasi mina' kanton unai 'nai mañaga deste antes. Pot esso na lamegai patte na tanu' kanton tasi gaige gi Karolinas guine.

Maseha mauleg lokue' i Chamorro pumeska, lamayot patte offisiun fangualu'an 'nai ha prekura prebinston familia ginen tinanom golai, gulusina, ag'gun haya yan pinegsai. Todu fafayña entalu' tasi yan gualu gi sabana.

Adumididi' sige dumaña gi che'chu' linahyan tat kumu fiestan soñgsoñg, fandango, ayudun dinimalas familia (kineni' guihañ yan kinisechan gualu'). Ginen este siha na animu 'nai mas umapayune i dos grupon tautau gi mayotmente na kinalamten. Mas ma-ulus saton yan antau na sensian kooperasion yan amesta gi entalu' niha.

Guiya este i estorian usun yan disposision tanu' gi entalu' dos grupon tautau 'nai ma-establese Komunidan Sankattan na Marianas!

Abarambau na tinituhon

Dispues de geran elmundu, rumesponsable i Navy gi ma-administran iya Marianas. Ma-establese eskuela deste elementariu hulu'

By JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.

Special to the Saipan Tribune

John DelRosario Jr. is a former publisher of the Saipan Tribune and a former secretary of the Department of Public Lands.



esta i ochu gradu. Makontinua famaguonta guihe na tiempu eskuelan niha Guam estake man-magradua gi dose gradu.

Mauleg na intension lau kada ha muebague' i Navy umatbansa i natibu, ti magpu haf' ha tutuhon gi kada pasu ni hahagu' mona. Pot ihemplo: Ginacha' induktu i mauleg na planun Navy sa' dispues de man-magradua famaguonta gi dose gradu, debi u fan masuda'e che'chu' niha.

Estague umafuetsas dinaña offisiat Navy yan tautau-ta gi maplanehan sisteman edukasion. Era, ha soda' dispues i Navy na ti magpu' i likau edukasion sa' ha totche-gue guatu gi inestablesen cho'chu'. Debi u fan mapega i man-edukau na famaguonta gi fina' petmanente na offisiun cho'chu'. Mas inatisa sensian matoganisan antau na kinalamten natibu gi otu patte siha gi linala' niha.

I Navy tumutuhon dikiki' na tendan lal' para u fanu'e natibu na siña masoda' lokue lina'la' niha gi inestablesen difirientes modun bisnis. Sige mona ma-introduse konsepton mafanana'an "cooperative"—dinaña natibu gi bisnis. Mauleg na planu lau mumaliñgu dispues gi estrakadan dañkulu na tinilaikan tiempu siha.

Pa'gu, kulan ha chopchup hit i fetti na rimulinon tiempon ha'ilas 'nai tat ti umarambabau kulan todus man-gimen dinistilan aguay-enten aga'. De dios miho!

By TRUDY RUBIN

The Philadelphia Inquirer

Trudy Rubin is a columnist and editorial-board member for the Philadelphia Inquirer.



The CIA spent a year vetting non-Islamist opposition commanders and believed it knew whom such weapons could be delivered to. So why not deliver MANPADS to vetted commanders rather than wait for radical Islamists to get them?

And wouldn't it make far more sense to let the opposition create its own no-fly zone by using MANPADS rather than—as some Republican and Democratic senators now advocate—use U.S. bombers or troops?

At the Brussels Forum, Louise Arbour, head of the International Crisis Group, asked whether the French were prepared for the chance that Assad wouldn't bend despite their arming of the opposition. What would they do then?

That question is valid. But the more pertinent question is: What will Washington do if U.S. inaction results in a failed Syrian state penetrated by jihadis who will get their hands on Assad's weapons? France and Britain are willing to take a risk to try to prevent this. But they can't convince Assad (or Moscow) that his days are numbered unless the United States helps them shift the balance on the Syrian ground.

TEMPLE

From Page 10

because of who they are? Who is making the household of God a palace of perdition? In the 60s, onward even today, they are the good folks who discriminate against persons of color. The Civil Rights movement took a chunk of the energy and awareness of my existence.

Today, members of the United Methodist Church of the Village

in New York City rally to remind the nation that the Supreme Court is reviewing a case involving two ladies who vowed love and affection for each other 42 years ago and remained constant in their fidelity. They solemnized their vows in "marriage" in Canada later (there are now many places where the union is legal) while living through the challenge of multiple sclerosis that took the life of one of the parties. The surviving one inherited joint property against which the IRS (yes, Mathilda, the taxman is still with us) is levying a tax of more than \$300 grand, a charge it would not make were the relationship hetero. Homophobia is

entrenched deep in the official structures of our society, and into the recesses of our gentrified souls!






The United Methodist Church as a denomination is on record as being against same-sex unions, but individual Church members from Bishops to laity take the other view, in spite of the official policy. We stoke the same flames with our renegade sisters and brothers.

Who shall fling their bodies into the prejudicial barb wires of history? Who dares march into the temple of our Jerusalems? My Nike shoes say, Just Do It! I do.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				
Mostly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 15 to 20 mph.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 15 to 20 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲ 86° ▼ 76°	▲ 86° ▼ 76°	▲ 87° ▼ 76°	▲ 87° ▼ 76°	▲ 87° ▼ 76°

Micronesia

Guam and Rota	Partly Cloudy	▲ 87 ▼ 80
Palau	Showers	▲ 87 ▼ 76
Yap	Partly Cloudy	▲ 89 ▼ 77
Chuuk	Cloudy	▲ 85 ▼ 78
Pohnpei	Showers	▲ 86 ▼ 79
Kosrae	Showers	▲ 86 ▼ 79
Majuro	Showers	▲ 86 ▼ 80

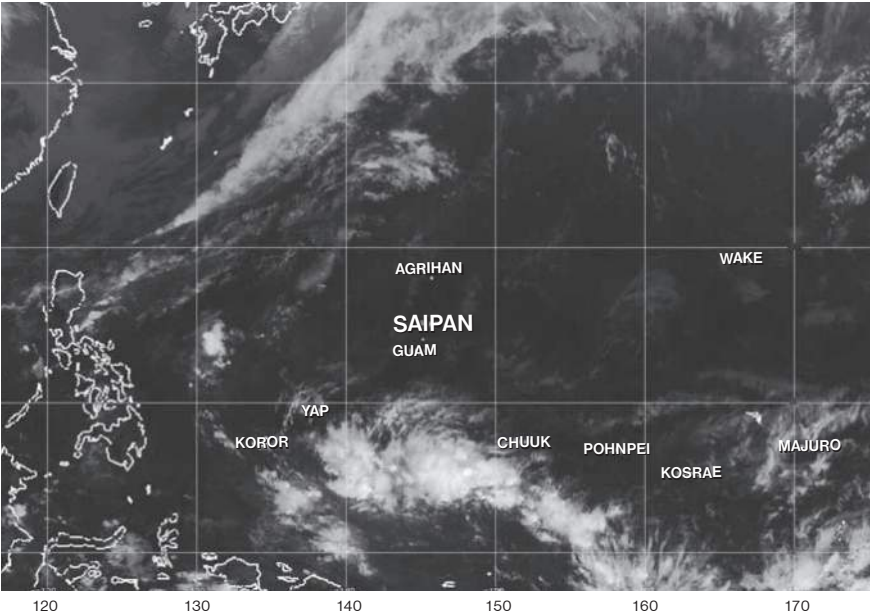
Around The Globe

Auckland	Sunny	▲ 74 ▼ 63
Beijing	Sunny	▲ 63 ▼ 36
Hong Kong	Showers	▲ 76 ▼ 72
Honolulu	Showers	▲ 79 ▼ 70
London	Mostly Cloudy	▲ 35 ▼ 31
Los Angeles	Mostly Sunny	▲ 68 ▼ 52
Manila	Partly Cloudy	▲ 90 ▼ 81
Melbourne	Cloudy	▲ 87 ▼ 61
Miami	Mostly Sunny	▲ 74 ▼ 47
New York	Mostly Sunny	▲ 48 ▼ 34
Osaka	Showers	▲ 56 ▼ 52
Paris	Mostly Cloudy	▲ 41 ▼ 29
Pusan	Sunny	▲ 60 ▼ 48
Rome	Showers	▲ 59 ▼ 43
Salem	Cloudy	▲ 62 ▼ 44
San Francisco	Partly Cloudy	▲ 61 ▼ 51
Seoul	Sunny	▲ 55 ▼ 37
Tokyo	Cloudy	▲ 61 ▼ 51
Washington, DC	Partly Cloudy	▲ 51 ▼ 35

Tides

Saipan Harbor			
1:54 AM	Today	Low Tide:	0.2 Feet
8:04 AM	Today	High Tide:	1.9 Feet
2:20 PM	Today	Low Tide:	0.5 Feet
8:09 PM	Today	High Tide:	1.9 Feet

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, MONDAY, MARCH 25, 2013

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A cold front cuts southwestward from 25N137E to beyond 130E at 21E. Scattered showers are along and up to 400 miles northwest of the front. A surface trough far northwest of Koror is causing scattered showers and a few thunderstorms within 75 miles of a line from 15N131E to 13N131E. A near-equatorial trough extends eastward from 3N130E to a weak circulation centered south of Guam at 4N144E. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms are southeast of Yap and southwest of Chuuk between 8N and 3N from 139E to 150E. Scattered showers and a few thunderstorms are southeast of Koror within 100 miles of a line from 5N135E to EQ140E and southeast of Chuuk within 100 miles of a line from 5N150E to 1N157E. Trade-wind convergence is triggering scattered showers across Tarawa to the southeast of a line from 1N170E to 5N180.

Sunrise/Sunset

Today	6:17 AM	6:29 PM
Wednesday	6:16 AM	6:29 PM
Thursday	6:16 AM	6:29 PM
Friday	6:15 AM	6:29 PM
Saturday	6:14 AM	6:29 PM

Moonrise/Moonset

Today	5:27 PM	5:02 AM
Wednesday	6:21 PM	5:45 AM
Thursday	7:18 PM	6:30 AM
Friday	8:17 PM	7:18 AM
Saturday	9:18 PM	8:09 AM

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- SAMUT SARI Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
- TRAVELOGUE Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF MARCH 8, 2013

DEPARTURES				ARRIVALS			
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)				GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN			
UA5070	4:35am	5:25am	2, 4, 6, 7	UA 5069	2:45am	3:35am	2, 4, 6, 7
UA5062	4:40am	5:30am	1, 3, 5	UA5071	7:05am	7:55am	Daily
UA5068	8:25am	9:15am	Daily	UA5073	9:50am	10:40am	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7
UA5074	11:10am	12:00pm	1, 4, 5, 7	UA5075	1:45pm	2:35pm	1, 4, 5, 7
UA5076	3:10pm	4:00pm	Daily	UA5077	5:35pm	6:25pm	Daily
UA5078	6:55pm	7:45pm	Daily	UA5079	8:20pm	9:10pm	Daily
UA5072	9:45pm	10:35pm	Daily				
SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)				NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN			
DL287	6:00am	8:45am	Daily	DL298	10:25am	3:00pm	Daily
DL285	6:30am	9:15am	1, 3, 5, 7	DL286	7:40pm	12:15am+1	2, 4, 6, 7
DL297	4:25pm	7:25pm	Daily	DL288	8:40pm	1:15am+1	Daily
SAIPAN-OSAKA (KIX)				OSAKA (KIX)-SAIPAN			
OZ119	4:00am	6:40am	Daily	OZ120	9:50pm	2:20am+1	Daily
SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)				BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN			
OZ608	3:10am	6:20am	1, 4, 5, 7	OZ607	9:00pm	1:50am+1	3, 4, 6, 7
SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)				SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN			
OZ606	2:10am	6:00am	1	OZ603	9:00am	2:20pm	Daily
OZ606	2:40am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	OZ120	7:10pm	2:20am+1	Daily via KIX
OZ6063	3:30am	7:20am	1, 5	OZ605	7:40pm	1:00am+1	7
OZ119	4:00am	11:20am	Daily via KIX	OZ605	8:10pm	1:30am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
OZ604	3:20pm	7:10pm	Daily	OZ6053	8:50pm	2:10am+1	4, 7
SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)				SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN			
3U8648	6:00am	8:35am	1, 4, 5, 7	3U8647	10:30pm	4:30am+1	3, 4, 6, 7
SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)				BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN			
MU7108	3:50am	7:40am	1, 5	MU7107	7:40pm	2:50am+1	4, 7
SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)				GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN			
3U8646	4:20am	7:30am	2, 6	3U8645	7:40pm	3:00am+1	1, 5
SAIPAN-VLADIVOSTOK (VVO)				VLADIVOSTOK (VVO)-SAIPAN			
XF1734	11:55am	5:10pm	5	XF1733	8:00pm	12:05am+1	4
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)				MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN			
OZ606/701	2:10am	11:15am	1 via ICN	OZ704/603	12:10am	2:20pm	Daily via ICN
OZ606/701	2:40am	11:15am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN	DL172/288	7:55am	1:15am+1	2, 4, 7 via NRT
UA5070/191	4:35am	9:55am	6 via GUM	DL172/288	8:00am	1:15am+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via NRT
UA5062/191	4:40am	9:55am	3 via GUM	UA190/5077	10:55am	6:25pm	3, 6 via GUM
DL287/173	6:00am	10:15pm	2, 4, 5, 7 via NRT	UA190/5079	10:55am	9:10pm	3, 6 via GUM
DL287/173	6:00am	10:35pm	1, 3, 6 via NRT	OZ702/605	12:30pm	1:00am+1	7 via ICN
UA5076/183	3:10pm	8:45pm	Daily via GUM	OZ702/605	12:30pm	1:30am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
OZ604/703	3:20pm	11:00pm	Daily via ICN	PR110/UA5072	10:15pm	7:55am+1	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM
UA5072/PR111	9:45pm	7:45am+1	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM	UA184/5071	10:55pm	7:55am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
				UA184/5071	11:59pm	7:55am+1	2, 5 via GUM
SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)				HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN			
OZ606/721	2:10am	11:50am	1 via ICN	OZ746/603	12:30am	2:20pm	Daily via ICN
OZ606/721	2:40am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN	OZ722/605	1:15pm	1:00am+1	7 via ICN
UA5076/147	3:10pm	9:45pm	1, 5 via GUM	OZ722/605	1:15pm	1:30am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
OZ604/749	3:20pm	11:00pm	Daily via ICN	UA180/5071	10:35pm	7:55am+1	1, 5 via GUM
LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U: Sichuan Airlines; MU: China Eastern; UA: United Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana; VLK: Vladivostok Air.				ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The <i>Saipan Tribune</i> is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)			

FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency	Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
Guam-Rota				FRE 115	13:00	13:10	Daily
FRE 100	7:30	8:00	Daily	FRE 117	14:30	14:40	Daily
Rota-Saipan				FRE 119	16:00	16:10	Daily
FRE 100	8:20	8:50	Daily	FRE 121	16:40	16:50	Daily
Guam-Rota				FRE 123	17:40	17:50	Daily
FRE 300	17:00	17:30	Daily	FRE 125	18:30	18:40	Daily
Rota-Saipan							
FRE 1750	17:50	18:20	Daily	Tinian-Saipan			
Saipan-Rota				FRE 102	7:05	7:15	Daily
FRE 200	9:30	10:00	Daily	FRE 104	7:50	8:00	Daily
Rota-Guam				FRE 106	8:20	8:30	Daily
FRE 1020	10:20	10:45	Daily	FRE 108	9:00	9:10	Daily
Saipan-Rota				FRE 110	10:00	10:10	Daily
FRE 400	18:55	19:25	Daily	FRE 112	11:05	11:15	Daily
Rota-Guam				FRE 114	12:00	12:10	Daily
FRE 400	19:40	20:10	Daily	FRE 116	13:30	13:40	Daily
Saipan-Tinian				FRE 118	14:50	15:00	Daily
FRE 101	6:45	6:55	Daily	FRE 120	16:20	16:30	Daily
FRE 103	7:30	7:40	Daily	FRE 122	17:00	17:10	Daily
FRE 105	8:00	8:10	Daily	FRE 124	18:05	18:15	Daily
FRE 107	8:40	8:50	Daily	FRE 126	18:50	19:00	Daily
FRE 109	9:10	9:20	Daily				
FRE 111	10:45	10:55	Daily				



NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any PTI cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

Business

Cyprus secures bailout, avoids bankruptcy

BRUSSELS (AP)—Cyprus secured a 10 billion euro (\$13 billion) package of rescue loans in tense, last-ditch negotiations early Monday, saving the country from a banking system collapse and bankruptcy that could have destabilized the entire euro area.

“We’ve put an end to the uncertainty that has affected Cyprus and the euro area over the past week,” said Jeroen Dijsselbloem, who chairs the meetings of the 17-nation eurozone’s finance ministers.

In return for the bailout, Cyprus must drastically shrink its outsized banking sector, cut its budget, implement structural reforms and privatize state assets, he said. The country’s second-largest bank will be shut down immediately, with all bond holders and people with more than 100,000 euros in their bank accounts there facing significant losses. The measures are likely to deepen the recession in Cyprus and lead to more job losses.

The cash-strapped Mediterranean island nation has been shut out of international markets for almost two years. It first ap-



Protesters hold a banner that reads “Hands off Cyprus” during an anti-bailout rally outside European Union house in capital Nicosia, Cyprus, Sunday, March 24, 2013.

AP

Without a bailout deal by Monday night, the tiny nation of about 800,000 would have faced the prospect of bankruptcy, which could have forced it to become the first country to abandon the euro currency. That would have roiled markets and spurred turmoil across the entire eurozone of 300 million people, analysts said, even though Cyprus only makes up less than 0.2 percent of the eurozone’s 10 trillion euro economy.

After the eurozone’s finance ministers’ approval, several national parliaments in eurozone countries such as Germany must also approve the bailout deal, which might take another few weeks. EU officials said they expect the whole program to be approved by mid-April.

Under the plan, Cyprus’ second-largest bank, Laiki, will be restructured and holders of bank deposits of more than 100,000 euros there will have to take losses, Dijsselbloem said, adding that it was not yet clear how severe the losses would be.

“This will have to be worked out in the coming weeks,” he added, noting that it is expected to yield 4.2 billion euros overall. Analysts have estimated investors might lose up to 40 percent of their money.

Savers’ deposits with all Cypriot banks of up to 100,000 euros will be guaranteed by the state in accordance with the EU’s deposit insurance guarantee, Dijsselbloem said. Laiki will be dissolved immediately into a bad bank containing its uninsured deposits and toxic assets, with the guaranteed deposits being transferred to the nation’s biggest lender, Bank of Cyprus.

Experts: NKorea training teams of ‘cyber warriors’

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)—Investigators have yet to pinpoint the culprit behind a synchronized cyberattack in South Korea last week. But in Seoul, the focus is fixed on North Korea, which South Korean security experts say has been training a team of computer-savvy “cyber warriors” as cyberspace becomes a fertile battleground in the nations’ rivalry.

Malware shut down 32,000 computers and servers at three major South Korean TV networks and three banks last Wednesday, disrupting communications and banking businesses. The investigation into who planted the malware could take weeks or even months.

South Korean investigators have produced no proof yet that North Korea was behind the cyberattack. Some of the malware was traced to a Seoul computer. Without elaborating, police said Monday that some of the malicious code also came from the United States and three European countries, South Korea’s Yonhap news agency reported. But South Korea has pointed the finger at Pyongyang in six cyberattacks since 2009, even creating a cybersecurity command center in Seoul to protect the Internet-dependent country from hackers from the North.

It may seem unlikely that impoverished North Korea, with one of the most restrictive

Internet policies in the world, would have the ability to threaten affluent South Korea, a country considered a global leader in telecommunications. The average yearly income in North Korea was just \$1,190 per person in 2011—just a fraction of the average yearly income of \$22,200 for South Koreans that same year, according to the Bank of Korea in Seoul.

But for several years, North Korea has poured money into science and technology. In December, scientists succeeded in launching a satellite into space aboard a long-range rocket from its own soil. And in February, North Korea conducted its third nuclear test.

plied for a bailout to recapitalize its ailing lenders and keep the government afloat last June, but the political negotiations stalled. After a botched agreement last week, the European Central Bank moved forcefully to focus leaders’ minds, threatening to cut off crucial emergency assistance to the country’s banks by Tuesday if no agreement was reached.

“It’s not that we won a battle, but we really have avoided a disastrous exit from the eurozone,” said Cyprus’ Finance Minister Michalis Sarris. “A

long period of uncertainty and insecurity surrounding the Cyprus economy has ended.”

The eurozone finance ministers accepted the plan, reached after more than 10 hours of negotiations in Brussels between Cypriot officials and the so-called troika of creditors - the International Monetary Fund, the European Commission and the ECB.

“We believe that this will form a lasting, durable and fully financed solution,” said IMF chief Christine Lagarde.

Japan to talk with EU on free trade negotiations

TOKYO (AP)—Japan’s prime minister will discuss a possible free trade pact with the European Union even as a summit in Tokyo to launch the negotiations is postponed because of the financial crisis in Cyprus. Chief government spokesman Yoshihide Suga said Monday that Prime Minister Shinzo Abe will talk by phone with Herman Van Rompuy, president of the European Council which sets the EU’s political agenda, about the negotiations later in the day.

Van Rompuy’s visit to Tokyo was canceled over the weekend. Cyprus later secured an agreement that paves the way for a 10 billion euro (\$13 billion) bailout.

As the global momentum builds for regional trade pacts, Japan has been eager to get started on talks with Europe. Japan and the EU account for about 30 percent of global economic output.

Earlier this month, Abe an-

nounced Tokyo will join talks on a Pacific trade pact, the U.S.-led Trans-Pacific Partnership. The announcement with the EU had been decided weeks ago.

European Trade Commissioner Karel De Gucht is in Tokyo and meeting with Japanese government and business officials as scheduled.

Although resistance is high in some industries to removing tariffs, such as long-protected rice farmers, manufacturers and others are concerned about getting left behind on the trade agreements being negotiated by other countries.

Among the likely beneficiaries of free trade would be Japan’s giant manufacturing exporters such as Toyota Motor Corp., the world’s biggest automaker.

Japanese consumers may also have much to gain with access to cheaper imports, including new kinds of services. And boosts in spending may help breathe life into the Japanese economy, the

world’s third largest.

“It would be not only great for the manufacturers seeking exports. It should also lead to a more efficient domestic economy because of increased competition. And it’s the Japanese consumer who will benefit,” said Azusa Kato, economist at BNP Paribas.

The U.S. and Europe announced free trade talks earlier this year aimed at creating the world’s largest free trade agreement.

The fresh push to start talks on joining free trade deals is part of the Japanese prime minister’s “Abenomics” strategy, centered on super-easy money and generous public works spending.

Abenomics has already driven up the Tokyo stock market and brought down the yen, a boon for Japan’s exporters.

Kato believes that sectors that could change for the better include pharmaceuticals and medical services.

Court: Can drug companies pay to delay generics?

WASHINGTON (AP)—Federal regulators are pressing the Supreme Court to stop big pharmaceutical corporations from paying generic drug competitors to delay releasing their cheaper versions of brand-name drugs. They argue these deals deny American consumers, usually for years, steep price declines that can top 90 percent.

The Obama administration, backed by consumer groups and the American Medical Association, says these so-called “pay for delay” deals profit the drug companies but harm consumers by adding 3.5 billion annually to their drug bills.

But the pharmaceutical companies counter that they need to preserve longer the billions of dollars in revenue from their patented products in order to recover the billions they spend developing new drugs. And both the large companies and the generic makers say the marketing of generics often is hastened by these deals.

The justices will hear the argument Monday.

Such pay-for-delay deals arise when generic companies file a challenge at the Food and Drug Administration to the patents that give brand-name drugs a 20-year monopoly. The generic drugmakers aim to prove

the patent is flawed or otherwise invalid, so they can launch a generic version well before the patent ends.

Brand-name drugmakers then usually sue the generic companies, which sets up what could be years of expensive litigation. When the two sides aren’t certain who will win, they often reach a compromise deal that allows the generic company to sell its cheaper copycat drug in a few years—but years before the drug’s patent would expire. Often, that settlement comes with a sizeable payment from the brand-name company to the generic drugmaker.

Nation

Both sides of gun debate make public appeals

WASHINGTON (AP)—Two of the loudest voices in the gun debate say it's up to voters now to make their position known to Congress.

New York Mayor Michael Bloomberg and National Rifle Association Executive Vice President Wayne LaPierre claim their opposing views on guns have the support of the overwhelming number of Americans. They are looking at the next two weeks as critical to the debate, when lawmakers head home to hear from constituents ahead of next month's anticipated Senate vote on gun control. Bloomberg, a former Republican-turned-inde-

pendent, has just sunk \$12 million for Mayors Against Illegal Guns to run television ads and phone banks in 13 states urging voters to tell their senators to pass legislation requiring universal background checks for gun buyers.

"We demanded a plan and then we demanded a vote. We've got the plan, we're going to get the vote. And now it's incumbent on us to make our voices heard," said Bloomberg.

Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid said Thursday that legislation would likely be debated in his chamber next month that will include expanded federal

background checks, tougher laws and stiffer sentences for gun trafficking and increased school safety grants. A ban on assault-style weapons was dropped from the bill, fearing it would sink the broader bill. But Reid has said that he would allow the ban to be voted on separately as an amendment. President Barack Obama called for a vote on the assault weapons ban in his radio and Internet address Saturday.

Recalling the horrific shooting three months ago at a Newtown, Conn., elementary school that left 20 first graders and six school ad-

Gun control issues

The percentage of respondents in a recent poll of Californians who approved of the following steps to control guns:

Proposal	All respondents	Gun owners
Background checks to buy guns	92%	90%
Background checks to buy ammo	79	66
Gun owners must be registered, licensed and insured	71	50
Ban magazines holding more than 10 rounds	58	49
Allow school districts to spend education funds to arm teachers	31	34

Source: Telephone poll by the USC Dornsife College of Letters, Arts and Sciences and the Los Angeles Times, of 1,501 registered California voters, conducted from March 11-17, margin of error +/- 2.9 percentage points

Graphic: Los Angeles Times

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ministrators dead, Bloomberg said it would be a great tragedy if Congress, through inaction, lost the moment to make the country safer from gun violence. Bloomberg said that 90 percent of Americans and 80 percent of NRA members support universal background checks for gun purchases.

"I don't think there's ever been an issue where the public has spoken so clearly, where Congress hasn't eventually understood and done the right thing," Bloomberg said.

But the NRA's LaPierre counters that universal background checks are "a dishonest premise." For example, mental

health records are exempt from databases and criminals won't submit to the checks. Background checks, he said, are a "speed bump" in the system that "slows down the law-abiding and does nothing for anybody else."

"The shooters in Tucson, in Aurora, in Newtown, they're not going to be checked. They're unrecognizable," LaPierre said. He was referring to the 2011 shooting in a Tucson shopping center that killed six and wounded 13, including former Rep. Gabrielle Giffords, and the July assault in a suburban Denver movie theater that killed 12 and injured 70. In both instances, as well as in the Newtown killings, the alleged shooters used military-style assault rifles with high-capacity ammunition magazines.

LaPierre slammed Bloomberg for the ad buy.

"He's going to find out this is a country of the people, by the people, and for the people. And he can't spend enough of his \$27 billion to try to impose his will on the American public," LaPierre said, adding, "He can't buy America."

"Millions of people" from across the country are sending the NRA "\$5, \$10, \$15, \$20 checks, saying stand up to this guy," LaPierre said, referring to Bloomberg.

Midwest sees spring transform into winter weather

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP)—Few signs of spring are being found in parts of the Midwest as a snowstorm tracks eastward mostly along Interstate 70, bringing heavy snow and high winds.

Two people killed in weather-related crashes were identified, dozens of Palm Sunday services were cancelled throughout Missouri, and about 100 flights were scrapped at Lambert Field in St. Louis. Winter storm warnings and advisories have been issued for Sunday and Monday as far east as Pennsylvania.

The storm dumped 7 to 9 inches of snow from eastern Kansas into central Missouri before tapering off Sunday morning, said Dan Hawblitzel, a meteorologist with the National Weather Service in suburban Kansas City.

In the central Missouri town of Columbia, TV station KOMU was briefly evacuated Sunday morning because of high winds and a heavy build-up of snow on the broadcast tower next to the building. And Missouri Gov. Jay Nixon announced he was cancelling a couple events planned for Mon-

day because of the weather.

But there was no cause for college basketball fans in Kansas City to be concerned, as the snow didn't affect the NCAA men's tournament schedule.

"The snow is not an issue," said Wynn Butler, 62, of Manhattan, Kan., who was in town with his daughter, a University of Kansas graduate, to watch her alma mater take on North Carolina.

He said his car is in a parking garage, and he can walk from his hotel to the Sprint Center. Butler also figures the roads will be clear before they

leave after Sunday's game.

"We are right in between the bad weather," he said.

By early Sunday evening, St. Louis had about a foot and northern suburbs from 12 to 14 inches, with another 1 to 2 inches expected, said Jim Sieveking, a meteorologist in St. Louis.

"The snow intensity is pretty heavy, so the visibility is low," said Todd Waelterman, director of the City of St. Louis Streets Department. "So we've asked people to stay off the road and let our plows do their job. And people seem to be heeding that warning."



A person walks along Jayhawk Boulevard with an umbrella as snow from a winter storm begins to fall in Lawrence, Kan., Saturday, March 23, 2013.

Winning \$338M Powerball jackpot ticket sold in NJ

TRENTON, N.J. (AP)—When Teddy Jackson heard Sunday morning that the lone winning ticket for a \$338.3 million Powerball drawing was sold in New Jersey, the Toms River resident combed through his 40 tickets and hoped for the best.

About 20 minutes later, after checking each ticket at least a couple times, Jackson realized he would have to go work on Monday.

"There were a few where I had one or two numbers, but that was it," the 45-year-old electrician said Sunday. "Now, I have to watch someone else get my money, buy the powerboat I would have gotten it was fun to dream about those things for a few minutes while I checked everything."

Details on where and when the winning ticket was purchased and other related in-

formation were not disclosed Sunday by New Jersey Lottery officials, who also would not say if anyone claiming to hold the ticket had contacted them as of Sunday afternoon.

They said information on the ticket would be released at a news conference on Monday morning at the lottery's headquarters in Lawrenceville.

Lottery officials say it was the fourth-largest jackpot in

Powerball history. The numbers drawn were 17, 29, 31, 52, 53 and Powerball 31. A lump sum payout would be \$221 million.

Retailers in New Jersey said the growing jackpot had spurred a big boost in ticket sales in recent days, and many people were willing to stand in long lines to get their tickets. Staffers at some stores said Sunday that they didn't know where the winning ticket had been sold.

Tip led to arrests in Ga. baby killing

BRUNSWICK, Ga. (AP)—Police in Georgia say an anonymous tip helped them make arrests in the shooting death of baby who was killed in a stroller. The Brunswick Police Department said Sunday that they got a tip that someone was crouched in the back seat of a vehicle as it drove away from the shooting on Thursday. The Glynn County detective's division spent hours following up on the tip and eventually arrested a 14-year-old suspect. The boy's statements led them to take 17-year-old De'Marquise Elkins into custody. Elkins is charged with murder in the death of 13-month-old Antonio Santiago. The baby's mother, Sherry West, said she was walking home when Elkins and a younger boy approached and asked her for money. Elkins' family says he did not shoot the baby.

Skydive site owner: Men didn't deploy parachutes

MIAMI (AP)—Two Icelandic skydivers who died during weekend jumps at a popular southwest Florida camp did not deploy their main parachutes, the co-owner of the facility said Sunday. Deputies found the bodies of the skydiving instruc-

tor and a student Saturday after the two didn't return from a jump with a group, setting off an hours-long air and ground search around the Zephyrhills facility, about 30 miles northeast of Tampa. Pasco County sheriff's authorities identified the victims as 41-year-old instructor Orvar Arnarson and 25-year-old student Andrimar Pordarson of Iceland. The men jumped separately, not in tandem. The fact that the men didn't deploy their main parachutes could mean that they lost altitude awareness and didn't know where they were during the dive, which is unusual, said T.K. Hayes, co-owner of Skydive City.

Endangered giraffe born at Conn. conservation site

GREENWICH, Conn. (AP)—A rare, nearly 6-foot-tall giraffe listed as an endangered subspecies has been born in a Connecticut conservation center. The *Greenwich Time* reports that Petal, a 6-year-old Rothschild giraffe gave birth on Friday to female calf as a group of other giraffes and staff at the LEO Zoological Conservation Center watched. Marcella Leone, founder and director of the center, said the young animal is curious, approaching humans early on in its first days of life.

Asia

Musharraf returns to Pakistan intent on comeback

KARACHI, Pakistan (AP)—Former President Pervez Musharraf returned home Sunday hoping to make a political comeback despite Taliban death threats and looming arrest warrants. But judging by the lackluster crowd at the airport to greet him, his biggest challenge could be his waning popularity.

His return comes as Pakistan is poised to transition from one democratically elected government to another—a first for a country that has experienced three coups since its 1947 inception. After years on the margins of Pakistani politics, Musharraf is seeking to rebuild his image, hoping to capitalize on an electorate frustrated with five years of rising inflation, rolling blackouts and security problems.

Musharraf, a four-star general who was chief of the army, took power in a 1999 coup and his military-led regime steered the country for nearly a decade until he was forced to step down in 2008 as president. Confronted with mounting criticism and widespread protests after he tried to dismiss



Former Pakistani President Pervez Musharraf, center, gestures to his supporters, unseen, upon his arrival to Karachi airport, Pakistan, Sunday, March 24, 2013.

Musharraf represents a polarizing force that could further complicate Pakistan's attempt to hold parliamentary elections on May 11. The country passed another milestone Sunday when the election commission appointed a caretaker prime minister to run the government ahead of elections, a step that is designed to promote electoral independence.

Musharraf's supporters, including elements of the military and members of Pakistan's influential expatriate communities, consider him a strong leader whose voice could help stabilize the country. Nostalgia for Musharraf's days in power was evident among members of the crowd who turned out to see him at the airport.

"At that time, we had employment. We had jobs. There was peace. It was 100,000 times better than today," said Muhammad Iqbal from Karachi.

Musharraf is fondly remembered by many people in this city of 18 million people where he heavily backed the Muttahida Quami Movement—the city's dominant political party.

But Musharraf's welcoming party, estimated at between 1,000 and 2,000, was small compared with the hundreds of thousands of people who thronged this same terminal when Benazir Bhutto returned to Pakistan or the tens of thousands who turned out Saturday night for a rally in Lahore for cricketer-turned-politician Imran Khan.

A diplomatic star is born in Chinese first lady

BEIJING (AP)—Glamorous new first lady Peng Liyuan has emerged as a Chinese diplomatic star, charming audiences and cutting a distinct profile from her all-but-invisible predecessors on her debut official trip abroad.

Peng was featured prominently in Sunday's Chinese media coverage of her husband President Xi Jinping in Russia on his first state visit since he assumed the presidency earlier this month.

A celebrated performer on state television, Peng watched song-and-dance routines at a performing arts school on Saturday, but did not join in as some media reports had suggested she might. The couple arrived in Tanzania later Sunday, and their trip also includes stops

in South Africa and Congo.

An internationally popular first lady could help soften China's sometimes abrasive international image and mark a victory in its so-far unsuccessful struggle to win over global public opinion.

At the same time, she could boost the popularity of the country's new leadership at a time when citizens are feeling increasingly alienated and are fed up with the ruling class's corruption and regal airs.

In recent years, the wives of China's top officials have traditionally gone almost unseen at home and attracted little attention while accompanying their husbands on state visits.

That was in part a negative reaction to Mao Zedong's wife, Jiang Qing, who was

widely despised and later imprisoned for her role as leader of the radical Gang of Four, which mercilessly persecuted political opponents during the chaotic 1966-76 Cultural Revolution.

Recently retired Premier Wen Jiabao's wife, Zhang Peili, became known for her role in the country's gem trade and was never seen in public with her husband. Meanwhile, Bo Xilai, one of China's most ambitious politicians, was brought down in spectacular style last year following his wife's involvement in the murder of a British businessman, setting off the country's nastiest political scandal in years.

Women in general wield relatively little power at the top of the Chinese power structure, with just two sitting on the ruling Communist Party's 25-member decision-making Politburo.



Peng

a popular chief justice, he left facing impeachment by the newly elected parliament.

He later left the country and has been living between London and Dubai ever since.

The former Pakistani strongman had promised to return to his homeland many times before. He finally followed through, boarding a plane in Dubai with supporters and journalists and flying to the southern

port metropolis of Karachi, the largest city in the nation.

Stepping out of the terminal, surrounded by police and supporters, he portrayed himself as a savior seeking to return the country to the prosperity and stability that supporters say marked his presidency.

"I have come back for you. I want you to get back the Pakistan that I had left when we used to feel proud in ourselves," he said.

Freed Australian hostage's family seeks justice

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—The family of a freed Australian hostage expressed hope Monday that his kidnappers, including al-Qaida-linked Abu Sayyaf militants who kept him in jungle captivity in the southern Philippines for 15 months, would be captured and punished so such ordeals would not be repeated.

Ex-Australian army soldier Warren Richard Rodwell was released early Saturday in Pagadian city in southern Zamboanga del Sur province, emaciated and barely able to walk from his

after receiving 4 million pesos (\$98,000) in ransom from the Australian's family last week.

Sakahalul, citing intelligence reports, said he suspected at least three armed groups, including the Abu Sayyaf, were involved in the kidnapping. Working together, two separate criminal groups

appeared to have abducted Rodwell on the Zamboanga Peninsula and held him there or on nearby islands, while the Basilan-based Abu Sayyaf negotiated for money. Basilan, where the Abu Sayyaf was started in the 1990s, is a short boat ride from the Zamboanga Peninsula.

Rodwell is married to a Filipino woman whose cousin handed the ransom payment to Indama in Basilan's hinterland in Sakahalul's presence, the vice governor said.

Both the Australian and Philippine governments have strict policies of refusing to pay ransom. That left Rodwell's family to struggle to raise funds, including selling some of their properties, according to an official confidential report seen by



Rodwell

The Associated Press.

"We don't encourage these ransom payments, but we can't stop the family from raising funds to save their loved one," Sakahalul said, expressing alarm at how different armed groups now appeared to be conspiring to carry out kidnappings.

After checking if the money was authentic, Indama counted the bundled bills and said he would order Rodwell freed. He even promised to return the money if the release was scuttled, Sakahalul said.

A Philippine military official who closely monitored the kidnapping said he suspected rogue members of the Moro Islamic Liberation Front, a former Muslim secessionist group that signed a preliminary peace accord with the government last year, the Abu Sayyaf and a kidnap gang called the Al Khobar group collaborated in kidnapping Rodwell.

Rodwell's sister Denise Cappello and brother Wayne Rodwell flew to Manila on Monday to meet him.

They read a family statement expressing hope that Philippine police could track down the gunmen.

ASIAN BRIEFS

Tibetan mother of 4 sets self on fire, report says

BEIJING (AP)—A U.S.-backed broadcaster says a Tibetan mother of four young children has killed herself in the latest self-immolation protest in western China. Radio Free Asia said 30-year-old Kalkyi set herself on fire Sunday near a monastery in Sichuan province's Aba county. The report said she died at the scene and her body

was placed in the nearby Jonang Tibetan Buddhist monastery. Aba has seen the largest number of the 110 such protests that have occurred starting in 2009.

Foreign maids lose court fight for HK residency

HONG KONG (AP)—Hong Kong's top court has denied permanent residency to two Filipino domestic helpers in the final decision of a legal

case that affects tens of thousands of other foreign maids in the southern Chinese financial hub. The Court of Final Appeal issued its unanimous 5-0 ruling Monday. The two had argued that an immigration provision barring domestic workers from permanent residency was unconstitutional. The ruling sided with the government's position that domestic helpers are not the same as other foreign residents.

World

Kerry warns Iraq on Iran flights to Syria

BAGHDAD (AP)—Just days after the 10th anniversary of the U.S. invasion of Iraq, U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry confronted Baghdad for continuing to grant Iran access to its airspace and said Iraq's behavior was raising questions about its reliability as a partner.

Speaking to reporters during a previously unannounced trip to Baghdad, Kerry said that he and Iraqi Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki had engaged in "a very spirited discussion" on the Iranian flights, which U.S. officials believe are ferrying weapons and fighters intended for the embattled Syrian government.

Kerry said the plane shipments—along with material being trucked across Iraqi territory from Iran to Syria—were helping President Bashar Assad's regime cling to power by increasing their ability to strike at Syrian rebels and opposition figures demanding Assad's ouster.

"I made it very clear that for those of us who are engaged in an effort to see President Assad step down and to see a democratic process take hold ... anything that supports President Assad is problematic," Kerry said at a news conference at the U.S. Embassy in Baghdad after meeting separately with Maliki at his office. "And I made it very clear to the Prime Minister that the overflights from Iran are, in fact, helping to sustain President Assad and his regime."

The overflights in Iraq have long been a source of contention between the U.S. and Iraq. Iraq and Iran claim the flights are carrying humanitarian goods, but American officials say they are confident that the planes are being used to arm the support the Assad regime. The administration is warning Iraq that unless action is taken, Iraq will be excluded from the international discussion about Syria's political future.

U.S. officials say that in the absence of a complete ban on flights, Washington would at least like the planes to land and be inspected in Iraq to ensure that they are carrying humanitarian supplies. Former Secre-



U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry straps himself into a helicopter as he prepares to fly out of the U.S. Embassy in Baghdad Sunday, March 24, 2013.

Syrian opposition plunges into disarray

BEIRUT (AP)—Syria's opposition plunged into disarray Sunday as its president quit and its military chief refused to recognize the newly elected prime minister of an interim government for rebel-held areas.

The moves reflected deep splits in the body the U.S. and its allies hope will emerge as the united face of the opposition and advance the fight to topple President Bashar Assad's regime.

The missteps of the opposition's mostly exile political leadership drew little notice inside Syria, where rebel fighters dismissed it as ineffective and pushed ahead with their offensive to gain ground near the country's southern border with Jordan. Nearby, the Israeli military in the Golan Heights responded to fire by shooting

back at targets inside Syria.

The first blow to the opposition Syrian National Coalition was the surprise resignation of its president, who said he was quitting in frustration over what he called lack of international support and constraints imposed by the body itself.

Mouaz al-Khatib, who rose to prominence as a preacher in Damascus' most famous mosque, said in a statement posted on his Facebook page that he was making good on an earlier vow to quit if undefined "red lines" were crossed.

"I am keeping my promise today and announcing my resignation from the National Coalition so that I can work with freedom that is not available inside the official institutions," he said.

He also blamed world powers for not offering Syria's reb-

els the support they demand and complained that "international and regional parties" tried to push the Coalition toward negotiations with the Assad regime—something most members refuse.

"All that has happened to the Syrian people—from destruction of infrastructure, to the arrest of tens of thousands, to the displacement of hundreds of thousands, to other tragedies—is not enough for an international decision to allow the Syrian people to defend themselves," the statement said.

Despite electing a new, U.S.-educated prime minister last week to head a planned interim government, the Coalition has failed to make much of a mark inside Syria, where hundreds of independent rebel brigades are fighting a civil war against Assad's forces.

tary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton secured a pledge from Iraq to inspect the flights last year, but since then only two aircraft have been checked by Iraqi authorities, according to U.S. officials.

WORLD BRIEFS

Police: No sign of 3rd party in Berezovsky death

LONDON (AP)—There was no evidence to suggest anyone else was involved in the death of Boris Berezovsky, the self-exiled Russian tycoon who went from Kremlin kingmaker to fiery critic, British police said Sunday. With an investigation under way, police are treating the death of Berezovsky—who fled to Britain in the early 2000s after a bitter falling out with Russian President Vladimir Putin—as unexplained. But the former oligarch survived assassination attempts and recently faced financial difficulties, prompting speculation as to whether his death was part of a conspiracy—or suicide. Police said Sunday it would be wrong to speculate on Berezovsky's cause of death pending the results of an autopsy, but said they had no evidence to suggest anyone else was involved.

Clashes at French anti-gay marriage protest

PARIS (AP)—Paris police used tear gas and batons to fight crowds who pushed their way onto the landmark Champs-Élysées avenue and toward the presidential palace as part of a

One senior U.S. official traveling with Kerry said the sheer number of overflights, which occur "close to daily," along with shipments trucked to Syria from Iran through Iraq, was inconsistent with claims they are only carrying humanitarian supplies. The official said it was in Iraq's interest to prevent the situation in Syria from deteriorating further, particularly as there are fears that al-Qaida-linked extremists may gain a foothold in the country as the Assad regime falters.

The official, who spoke on condition of anonymity because the official was not authorized to speak publicly on the matter, said there are clear links between al-Qaida linked extremists operating in Syria and militants who are also carrying out terrorist attacks in Iraqi territory with increasing regularity.

Kerry's comments in Baghdad come as U.S. lawmakers are calling for President Barack Obama to do more to stop the bloodshed in Syria, including possible airstrikes against Assad's aircraft fleet.

The Republican chairman of the House Intelligence Committee, Rep. Mike Rogers of Michigan, said Sunday the U.S. should create a "safe zone" in northern Syria that would give the U.S. more leverage with opposition forces.

huge protest against a draft law allowing same-sex couples to marry and adopt children. Hundreds of thousands of people—conservative activists, schoolchildren with their parents, retirees, priests—converged on the capital Sunday in a last-ditch bid to stop the bill, many bused in from the French provinces. The violence took protesters and police by surprise, and suggested that the anti-gay marriage protests have become outlets for anger and disappointment in the presidency of Francois Hollande's presidency.

Former rebels besiege Libyan premier's office

TRIPOLI, Libya (AP)—About 200 former rebel fighters in Libya have besieged the prime minister's office, demanding that he resign. The militia members, who did not threaten violence, want Prime Minister Ali Zidan to step down in accordance with a political isolation law banning members of the former regime from political life. He served as an ambassador under Moammar Gadhafi, who was ousted in an eight-month civil war. The law is controversial because it bans anyone who worked with Gadhafi from 1969 until he was killed in 2011.

C. African Republic president overthrown by rebels

BANGUI, Central African Republic (AP)—Rebels overthrew Central African Republic's president of a decade on Sunday, seizing the presidential palace and declaring that the desperately poor country has "opened a new page in its history." The country's president fled the capital, while extra French troops moved to secure the airport, officials said.

The rebels' invasion of the capital came just two months after they had signed a peace agreement that would have let

President Francois Bozize serve until 2016. That deal unraveled in recent days, prompting the insurgents' advance into Bangui and Bozize's departure to a still unpublicized location.

Witnesses and an adviser to Bozize said rebel trucks were traveling throughout the town on Sunday hours after the palace was seized. Former colonial power France confirmed the developments, issuing a statement that said French President Francois Hollande "has taken note of

the departure of President Francois Bozize."

"Central African Republic has just opened a new page in its history," said a communique signed by Justin Kombo Moustapha, secretary-general of the alliance of rebel groups known as Seleka.

"The political committee of the Seleka coalition, made up of Central Africans of all kinds, calls on the population to remain calm and to prepare to welcome the revolutionary forces of Seleka," it said.

Central African Republic, a nation of 4.5 million, has long been wracked by rebellions and power grabs. Bozize himself took power in 2003 following a rebellion, and his tenure has been marked by conflict with myriad armed groups.

The rebels reached the outskirts of Bangui late Saturday. Heavy gunfire echoed through the city Sunday as the fighters made their way to the presidential palace, though the president was not there at the time.

Focus

By SHARON COHEN
AP NATIONAL WRITER

He had a knack for soothing soldiers who'd just seen their buddies killed by bombs. He knew how to comfort medics sickened by the smell of blood and troops haunted by the screams of horribly burned Iraqi children.

Capt. Peter Linnerooth was an Army psychologist. He counseled soldiers during some of the fiercest fighting in Iraq. Hundreds upon hundreds sought his help. For nightmares and insomnia. For shock and grief. And for reaching that point where they just wanted to end it all.

Linnerooth did such a good job his Army comrades dubbed him The Wizard. His "magic" was deceptively simple: an instant rapport with soldiers, an empathetic manner, a big heart.

For a year during one of the bloodiest stretches of the Iraq war, Linnerooth met with soldiers 60 to 70 hours a week. Sometimes he'd hop on helicopters or join convoys, risking mortars and roadside bombs. Often, though, the soldiers came to his shoebox-sized "office" at Camp Liberty in Baghdad.

There they'd encounter a raspy-voiced, broad-shouldered guy who blasted Motorhead, Iron Maiden and other ear-shattering heavy metal, favored four-letter words and inhaled Marlboro Reds—once even while conducting a "stop smoking" class. He was THAT persuasive.

Linnerooth knew when to be a friend and when to be a professional Army officer. He could be tough, even gruff at times, but he also was a gentle soul, a born storyteller, a proud dad who decorated his quarters with his kids' drawings and photos. He carried his newborn daughter's shoes on his ruck sack for good luck.

Linnerooth left Iraq in 2007, a few months short of the end of his 15-month tour. He couldn't take it anymore. He'd heard enough terrible stories. He'd seen enough dead and dying.

He became a college professor in Minnesota, then counseled vets in California and Nevada. He'd done much to help the troops, but in his mind, it wasn't enough. He worried about veteran suicides. He wrote about professional burnout. He grappled with PTSD, depression and anger, his despair spiraling into an overdose. He divorced and married again. He fought valiantly to get his life in order.

But he couldn't make it happen.

As the new year dawned, Pete Linnerooth, Bronze Star recipient, admired Army captain, devoted father, turned his gun on himself. He was 42.

He was, as one buddy says, the guy who could help everybody—everybody but himself.

He liked to jokingly compare himself to an intrepid explorer stranded in one of the most remote corners of the earth.

Linnerooth's best buddy, Brock McNabb, recalls how they'd laugh and find parallels to the plight of Ernest Shackleton, whose ship, *Endurance*, became trapped in the Antarctic during an early 20th-century expedition. The crew ended up on an ice floe, scrambling to survive.

This was the 100-degree desert, of course, but for them, the analogy was apt: Both were impossible missions—Linnerooth and two teammates were responsible for the mental stability and psychological care of thousands—and both groups leaned on one another for emotional sustenance.

"There's no cavalry to save the day," McNabb explains. "You ARE the cavalry. There was no relief."

McNabb and a third soldier, Travis Landchild, were the tight-knit mental health crew in charge of the 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division in the Baghdad area. They were there when the surge began, rocket attacks increased and the death toll mounted.

Landchild says the three dubbed themselves "a dysfunctional tripod." Translation: One of the three "legs" was always broken, or stressed out, and without fail, "the other two would step up and support that person."

A few months into their tour, McNabb says, both he and Linnerooth—with the approval of on-site doctors—began taking antidepressants. "He had to have training wheels," McNabb says. "We all did."

They worked non-stop, even overnight sometimes. They listened so intently, their nightmares were not their own.

They saw guys who'd witnessed Humvees vaporize before them, medics barely out of high school dealing with double amputations, women sexually assaulted in combat zones. There were soldiers suffering from paranoia, bipolar disorder, anxiety—one was wetting his bed. And then there were those escorted under guard after threatening suicide.

"People are in rough, rough shape ... it's misery all the time, and it does affect you," McNabb says.

Linnerooth—the only trained psychologist of the three—was frustrated by what he regarded as the Army's view of mental health as a second-class prob-



This July 2011 photo shows Pete Linnerooth and his two children, Jack and Whitney, in Lake Tahoe during his wedding to Melanie Walsh. Though Linnerooth moved to California, he remained an attentive, loving father. He'd fly to Minnesota often and while in California, he'd call his children every night. He'd read to his son; he created a cartoon series for his daughter featuring a spider they called Gigerenzer. He'd Skype with his kids, too, content just to watch them watch TV.

VET WHO SAVED MANY IN IRAQ COULDN'T ESCAPE DEMONS

lem that can be minimized or overlooked during deployment, McNabb says. At times, he also felt powerless—stabilizing soldiers, then having to return them to missions, knowing they'd be traumatized again.

"Sometimes he felt he was putting a Band-Aid over a bullet hole," McNabb says. "It would be, 'I got you to where you can sleep through the night ... but guess what? You have seven months left in your deployment.'"

For about half his tour, Linnerooth's office was a 12-by-12 trailer. His heavy-metal soundtrack—he banned the Beatles and Pink Floyd, deeming them too sad—provided a sound buffer. A thermal blanket serving as a makeshift room divider also provided a modicum of privacy.

Linnerooth brought hope to those gripped by hopelessness. In a desert, he could always find the glass half full.

He turned tragedies into cathartic moments: When a platoon lost a member, he'd encourage the survivors to deal

with their grief by writing letters to the children of the fallen soldier, recounting the great things about their father.

He used irreverence as a balm: When he met with troops in a chapel after a suicide bomb intended for them instead struck a group of Iraqi schoolgirls, he punctuated his remarks with a four-letter word. God, he insisted, surely wouldn't mind him cussing in a religious sanctuary, all things considered. Then he offered comfort.

"It IS horrible," McNabb quotes him as saying. "'There are bad guys out there ... You're brave soldiers. You're being asked to do a job no one could do.'"

But Linnerooth wasn't just dealing with emotional trauma. He was in the same complex as the busy Riva Ridge Troop Medical Clinic. When mass casualties arrived, he was there squeezing IV bags, handling bandages.

Later on, talking with family, he'd hint of the horror in sketchy details, describing how a blocked drain once left the soldiers ankle-deep in

blood, or the agony of Iraqi kids dying slowly.

Linnerooth did elaborate in one essay. In words both graphic and incredibly tender, he described a female soldier brought in with mortal wounds. Her Humvee, while on a rescue mission, had been struck by an armor-penetrating explosive.

"I stood at her head and considered her hair, for Christ-sakes!" he wrote. "The blast had mussed her hair. Removed her foot, cleaved her abdomen, but mussed her hair. For whatever reason I looked at it and longed to smooth it back from her forehead. Like I do for my children. It was reddish-blond, curly, almost kinky, and in disarray. I looked around me to see if anyone would notice this gesture, if anyone would mind. Hell, I don't know what to do in an abattoir of human suffering, it's not my job. I deal with easy things, like the paranoid, the personality disordered, and those without hope. All I wanted to do was smooth her hair, perhaps

compose her for the next stage of her journey. But I never did it, and regret it to this day."

■ ■ ■

Even as he continued to comfort others, Linnerooth was showing signs of strain.

Ray Nixon, then a medic at Riva Ridge, remembers anguishing over critical decisions—assigning soldiers to what could be life-and-death missions—and talking with Linnerooth.

"Pete would always tell me, 'You're doing the best job you can. You're well trained,'" Nixon says. "He always made me feel better. He knew exactly what to say, exactly what direction to guide you in—but Pete was very bad at taking care of himself. Any time he was having problems or getting overwhelmed, instead of asking for help, he'd lock himself in his room and try to deal with it alone."

He had always been this way. His mother, Gayle McMullen, who adopted Pete when he was

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VET

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9 1/2 weeks old, recalls a loving little boy who adored animals, talked up a storm at 18 months old and was very sensitive. He clammed up when upset. "You could see something was bothering him, but he kept a lot inside," she says.

In Iraq, Linnerooth avoided socializing. Friends, he'd say, were potential patients.

His buddies gave him space, but they noticed he wasn't bouncing back as he had before.

A year into the tour, McNabb says, Linnerooth walked in a doctor's office and said: "I can't stand it. This is too much. How much more misery and torture are these kids going to go through?"

The doctor, McNabb says, asked if he might hurt himself. Linnerooth replied he wasn't sure.

As he was evacuated, he told McNabb he was crushed having to abandon his teammates. They saw it otherwise.

"We didn't know if any of us were going to get out alive. You never do in war," Landchild says. "We kind of had this hope that one of us made it. Yeah, he's broken as heck and he has a lot of healing to do but he got OUT."

He wasn't the same. His family noticed it when they met him in Schweinfurt, Germany.

"He came home burdened," says his younger sister, Mary Linnerooth Gonzalez. "He was disappointed that he couldn't affect the wheels of change. ... I think he was defeated."

Amy, Linnerooth's wife at the time—they'd met as teens in Rochester, Minn.—says they had trouble resuming their lives. He didn't discuss what he'd seen while in Iraq, and didn't open up at home.

"I think it was just kind of like a wall that he put up," she says. "I asked him about that later and he said if he let that guard down, then it would be like a dam flooding and it would just all come out and he couldn't be that way."

There were some early warning signs, she says, including jokes about suicide. She dismissed it as gallows humor.

In 2008, after nearly six years in the Army, Linnerooth was a civilian again, returning to an academic world where he'd thrived.

He was the kind of student professors rave about for years, describing him as "brilliant" and "amazing."

Patrick Friman, who was in charge of Linnerooth's doctoral dissertation at the University of Nevada-Reno, remembers a day when his then-student joined him for training at an out-patient psychological clinic. A mother was struggling with her 3-year-old: The girl wouldn't sleep in her own bed, wasn't toilet trained and refused to do what her mother asked.

It soon became clear that Linnerooth, the novice, was much

better at relating to the mother than the trained professor. "I marveled at how well he described the problem, the solution and the steps that need to be taken to achieve it," Friman says. "She was hanging on his every word. She couldn't wait to go home to try it."

Linnerooth recommended the mother set reasonable bed times, be affectionate when her child was behaving and make other adjustments. The plan succeeded. "He wanted to learn how to work with kids and he was just a natural at it," Friman says.

Linnerooth also had made an impression at Minnesota State University-Mankato, where he earned his master's degree. Professor Daniel Houlihan, who was his adviser, remembers an enormously gifted writer who was prescient about the war—years before, he had warned of a

on eggshells."

In early 2009, Linnerooth's depression took a disastrous turn. He nearly died from an overdose of pills.

His buddy, McNabb, phoned. "Jesus, man you can't even kill yourself right," he teased. Linnerooth laughed.

But he also confided: "I just hated where my life was going. Here, I'm arguing with my wife. ... I want to be normal for my kids. ... I was tired of being here."

Amy Linnerooth says her husband was very remorseful. "He thought that was a really stupid thing to do to the kids and us," she says. She was convinced he'd never try to harm himself again.

By late 2009, though, his marriage was failing and his job was in jeopardy.

Houlihan, his colleague, approached him. "This just isn't

Gigerenzer. He'd Skype with his kids, too, content just to watch them watch TV.

Linnerooth also felt his work as a veterans' readjustment counselor was helping people. He spoke at symposiums about the emotional trauma of war. With McNabb, he conducted a suicide prevention class for an Army Reserve unit, even as he himself was being treated for his own PTSD.

He became more vocal about the strains on military psychologists. Linnerooth talked about the pressures to The New York Times and Time. He told the magazine in 2010 "the Army has been criminally negligent," in not having enough mental health experts to serve combat vets, putting a bigger burden on those trying to do the job.

He joined Bret Moore, another former Army psycholo-

be with his new wife. He was hired by the Department of Veterans Affairs to work with vets struggling with PTSD and substance abuse.

There was a hitch, though. He was approaching a two-year deadline to get a state license required by the VA.

McNabb urged him to take the test. Whether it was depression or another reason, he didn't. The VA let him go. (The agency said in a January statement that it was forced to terminate Linnerooth because of the lack of licensing but offered to take him back once he finished the requirements.)

"He felt betrayed," his widow says. "He deteriorated after that and he deteriorated quickly."

"It broke him yet again," his sister says. "He felt let down by the system."

Even for "a fairly resilient guy,"

tions, but no explanation of why he'd taken his life.

"For the record, Pete Linnerooth did not want to die," McNabb says. "He just wanted the pain to end. Big difference."

For all those who loved and admired him, for all those who saw him at his best and worst, these past weeks have been filled with sorrow, regret and inescapable irony.

"He didn't like to burden other people," his widow says. "He liked to take care of other people. I don't know anyone who knew how to comfort people like he did. ... He was very kind. He was sincere. He was generous. He was patient. He was forgiving. It's such a tragedy. He had the skill, he genuinely cared and he could have helped so many people. And now he's gone."

■■■

His family and friends gathered on a bitter cold January day in Minnesota to bid farewell.

The night before, his Army pals flew in from around the country and toasted their buddy with prodigious amounts of scotch and rum. They shared favorite Pete stories and placed his urn on the table, covering it with a Motorhead T-shirt.

Later in the hotel room near Fort Snelling National Cemetery, McNabb mulled over how to leave a legacy for his friend's kids—a memorial that would give them peace and make them proud. But he was limited to 30 characters for the message on Pete's headstone. How do you honor a life in a handful of words?

McNabb then remembered something Linnerooth had once told him: "Maybe we're all meant for just one great deed and we're done."

That gave him an idea.

The next day, on a 4-degree, cloudless morning, Capt. Peter J.N. Linnerooth was laid to rest with taps and a 21-gun salute.

McNabb presented Linnerooth's son, Jack, with his father's Bronze Star, telling him: "Don't forget your dad was so very proud of you."

After the mourners met for lunch and more reminiscences, a small group of Army friends who'd served with him in Iraq returned to the unmarked stone as the sun lowered in the winter sky.

McNabb leaned over a long arm, tapped the marble and addressed Pete:

"You owe me a —ton of beers when I see you next," he said with a smile.

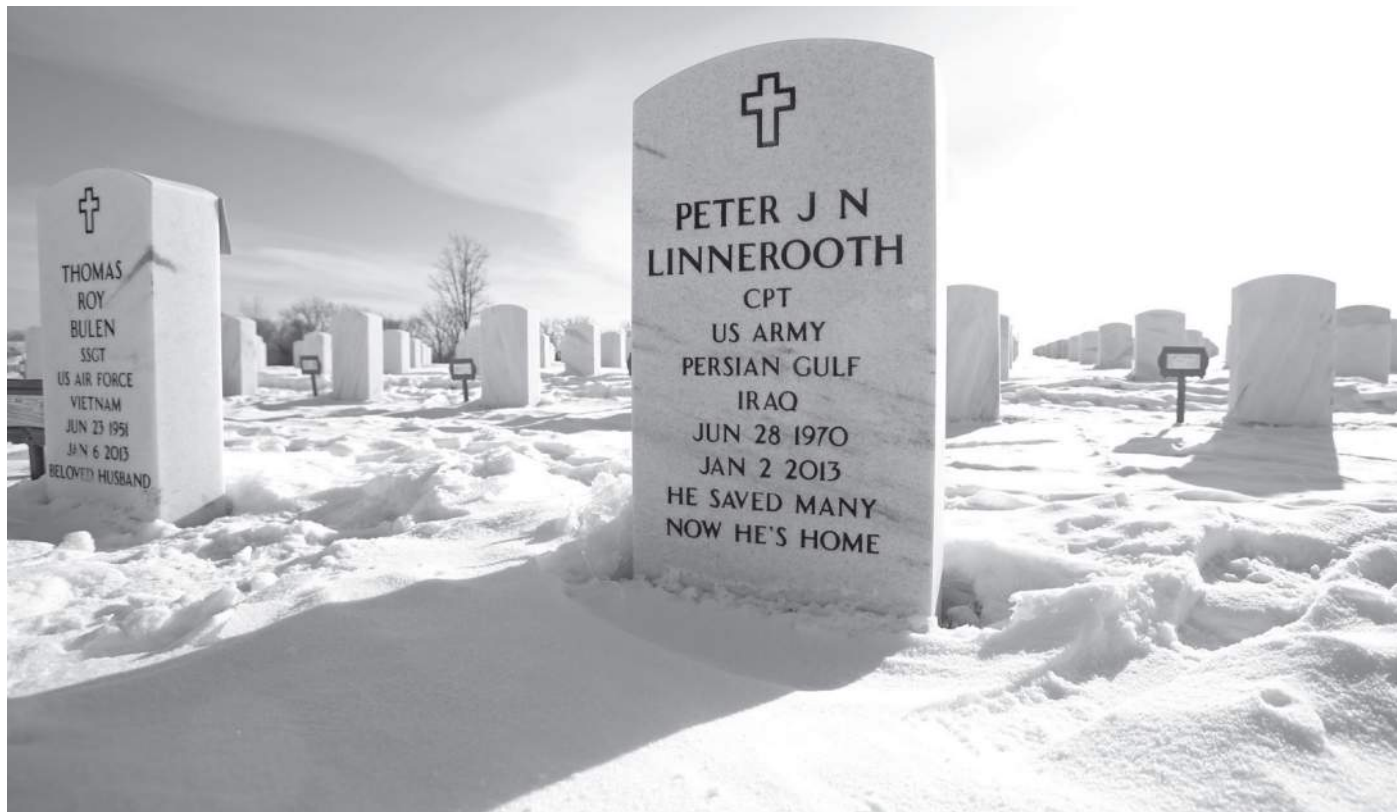
Then he surveyed the surrounding graves, calling out to Pete those buried nearby, when they served and in what branch of military. These were now his neighbors.

"You're with all these people who'll love you for all time," he said.

It was finally time to go.

On a February day, the engraved headstone arrived. It's etched with Peter Linnerooth's name, his military service and a tribute to his great deed, summed up in this spare epitaph:

HE SAVED MANY
NOW HE'S HOME.



This Feb. 15, 2013 photo shows the grave site of Capt. Peter Linnerooth at Fort Snelling National Cemetery in Minneapolis. Linnerooth's friend, Brock McNabb mulled over how to leave a legacy for his friend's kids - a memorial that would give them peace and make them proud. But he was limited to 30 characters for the message on Pete's headstone. How do you honor a life in a handful of words? McNabb then remembered something Linnerooth had once told him: "Maybe we're all meant for just one great deed and we're done."

high military suicide rate.

He was hired to teach psychology at the school in 2008. Still raw from Iraq, he quickly became annoyed with 19-year-olds griping about tough grading standards. He'd just come from a place where 19-year-olds worried about their very survival.

Linnerooth began missing meetings. He seemed paranoid, spending a lot of time in his office shredding papers, Houlihan recalls.

Jeffrey Buchanan, another professor in Mankato who'd been friends with Linnerooth and his wife since grad school, says the confident, self-assured Pete was gone. "It seemed like he was questioning every decision he was making," he says.

Things were also bad at home. Amy Linnerooth says they tried marital counseling.

Her husband seemed two people, she says. "It would be like the guy you knew ... then a little thing would set him off," she recalls. "I remember telling him 'I just want to blend in with the wallpaper. I don't want to be in your way.' It was like walking

working well," he said. "We've got to figure out how we can salvage your career."

The professor expected Linnerooth to be defensive. Instead, he was relieved to confront the problems.

He was given an extended leave and headed west to start a new life.

McNabb had invited his pal to him join him at the Santa Cruz County Vet Center in California.

He arrived looking terrible, but soon shed 50 pounds and shaved his long beard. He moved in across the street from McNabb. They spent nights chatting over beers.

Linnerooth liked his new surroundings but his ongoing divorce and separation from his kids weighed on him. Still, he remained an attentive, loving father. He'd fly to Minnesota often and while in California, he'd call his children, Jack, 9, and Whitney, 6, every night. He'd read to his son; he created a cartoon series for his daughter featuring a spider they called

gist he befriended before Iraq, to produce an academic paper about professional burnout. "He wanted to write and get the word out," Moore says. "It was therapeutic for him. ... He really was putting his heart and soul into it."

For a time, Linnerooth seemed happy, telling Moore about his budding relationship with Melanie Walsh, a social worker. They'd met a decade earlier when she was an undergraduate assistant at Reno. Moore was invited to their July 2011 wedding in Lake Tahoe.

As the months wore on, though, he reported marital strains. He also was missing deadlines for their paper.

Moore says he eventually toned down Linnerooth's work to make it more academic and less emotional. "You could really see the anger," he says, noting it reflected both his attitude toward the military and his disintegrating personal life. The paper was published in 2011 in an American Psychological Association journal.

Linnerooth moved to Reno to

Moore says, "there was just one letdown right after the other. He never got any breathing room."

■■■

At the end of last summer, Linnerooth returned home to Minnesota so he could see his children daily. He did travel back to California, though, for a joyous occasion—the birth of his son, David.

He spoke often with his buddy, McNabb, and seemed optimistic, considering new careers outside psychology. But he kept his distance, too, not telling former university colleagues he was back.

Linnerooth was busy with family during the holidays: He sent his mother a text thanking her for the kids' Christmas gifts, traveled west to see his baby and sent photos of the infant in a green monster outfit to his sister, Mary. On Jan. 1, he spent a happy day with his son, Jack, and was planning another visit with David.

The next day, though, McNabb says, a fight with his wife, alcohol and a loaded gun proved a tragic combination.

He left a note with instruc-

Overdrive

Lincoln MKZ unlikely to transform brand

By DAVID UNDERCOFFLER
LOS ANGELES TIMES

In a dramatic debut at the 2012 New York International Auto Show, Lincoln billed the mid-sized 2013 MKZ as the standard bearer for a transformed Lincoln, the first of an array of new models to entice younger buyers.

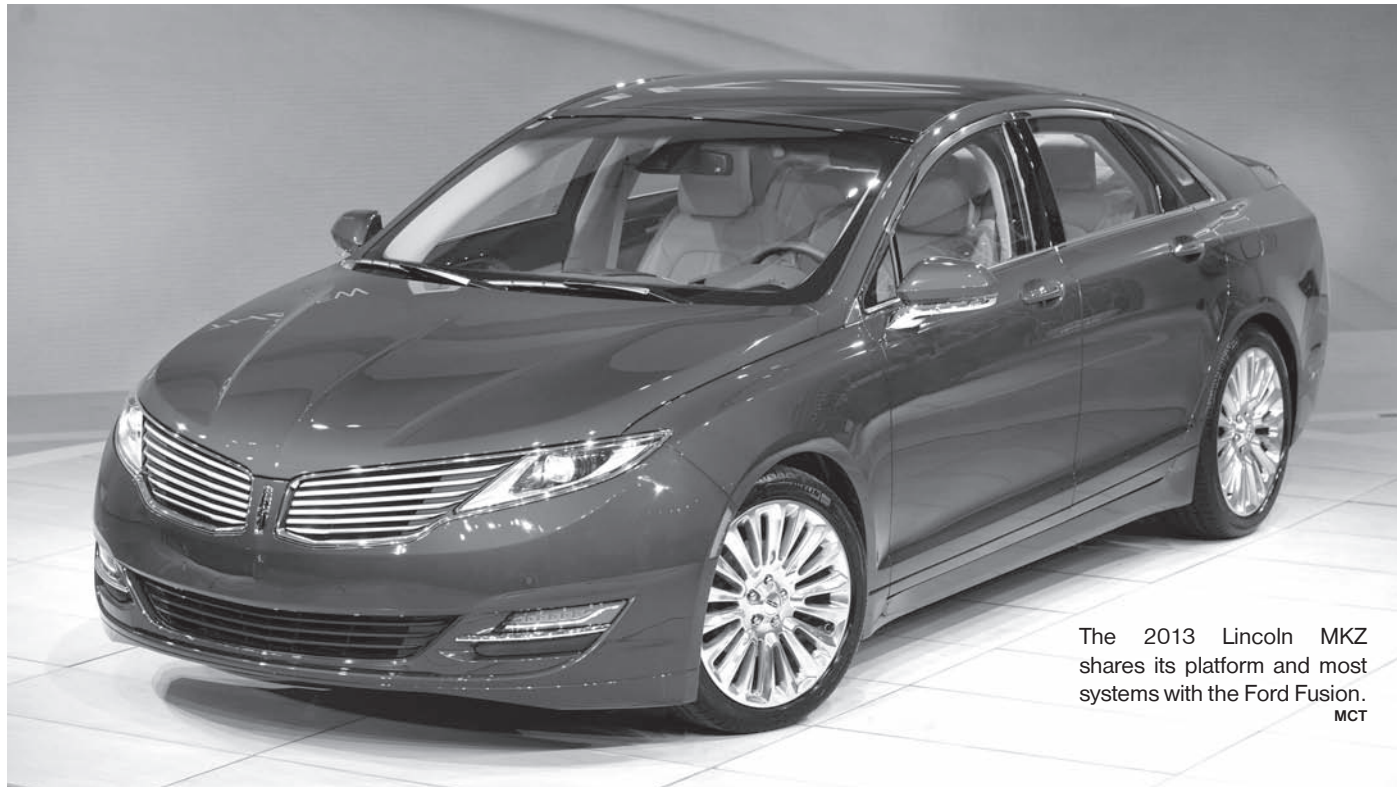
What went unsaid was that the brand, once the choice of presidents and movie stars, had seen better days.

Sales only continued their long slide in 2012, with just 82,000 Lincolns going out the door—about half of what Cadillac sold and about 213,000 fewer than class-leading Mercedes, according to Motor Intelligence. So the MKZ is arriving in dealerships with a more humble goal: Sell to absolutely anyone.

The effort to reinvent Lincoln comes a decade after the one at Cadillac, but with the same high stakes. The delay owes in part to the distraction of Ford's efforts to buy its way into the luxury segment with acquisitions of Volvo, Jaguar, Land Rover and Aston Martin—all since sold off. Now Lincoln has Ford's undivided attention, along with sole responsibility for carrying the automaker's upscale presence.

Much of that weight falls on the shoulders of the MKZ, Lincoln's primary play for volume sales. Lincoln will need to seduce buyers with its quiet, comfortable ride and sportier sheet metal while hoping they overlook an interior with more cheap plastic than they might expect on a car that can cost \$50,000.

Buyers also would have to ignore that many aspects of the MKZ feel conspicuously like the Ford Fusion, on which it's based. That's more a compliment to the Fusion than a slight of the MKZ, but it may still pose a problem for Lincoln.



The 2013 Lincoln MKZ shares its platform and most systems with the Ford Fusion. MCT

Buyers need tangible reasons to pay more. But the upgrades of the Lincoln over the Ford seem less dramatic than those of a Lexus, for instance, over its corresponding Toyota.

We tested the two powertrains the MKZ borrows from the Ford Fusion. The Lincoln comes standard with either a gasoline or a hybrid engine—both of which start at \$35,925, unusual in that most hybrid models command a premium.

Lincoln eagerly points out that Lexus charges extra to go from the base ES to the hybrid model. But there are a few cost-cutting shortcuts evident in the MKZ Hybrid. The most obvious is an instrument panel straight out of any of Ford's hybrid cars that lacks the elegance of the display in the gasoline-only MKZ.

In addition to the two engines tested, Lincoln also offers a 300-horsepower V-6.

The MKZ Hybrid pairs a 2.0-liter, inline four-cylinder en-

NUTS & BOLTS

Vehicle type: four-door sedan

Base price, excluding destination charge: \$35,925

Price as tested: MKZ AWD: \$47,880; MKZ hybrid: \$45,990

Engine: MKZ: 2.0-liter turbocharged, direct-injected EcoBoost four-cylinder; MKZ hybrid: 2.0-liter inline four-cylinder and 88-kilowatt electric motor

Transmission: MKZ: Six-speed automatic with paddle shifters; MKZ hybrid: Continuously variable

Horsepower: MKZ: 240; MKZ hybrid: 188

Torque: MKZ: 270 pound-feet; MKZ hybrid: not provided

0-60 mph: MKZ AWD: 6.6 seconds, according to Motor Trend

EPA fuel economy: MKZ AWD: 22/31 city/highway; MKZ hybrid: 45/45 city/highway

Los Angeles Times' take: Relies on Ford Fusion mechanicals and Lincoln heritage, with mixed results

Highs: Sharply designed rear end; clean interior layout

Lows: Bloated front end; interior needs more luxury

gine with an 88-kilowatt electric motor for a total of 188 horsepower. A continuously variable transmission sends power to the front wheels. (The standard MKZ offers an all-wheel-drive option; the hybrid does not.)

The MKZ is heavier and

slower than the Lexus ES 300 hybrid, but it still has enough power to meet most drivers' demands.

Lincoln estimates the hybrid model gets fuel economy of 45 miles per gallon in both city and highway driving. Our test-

ing showed the car getting 31 mpg in mostly city driving, according to the MKZ's trip computer. This drivetrain is nearly identical to the one in the Ford C-Max hybrid and Ford Fusion hybrid, which Ford claims will get 47 mpg in city and highway driving. The Environmental Protection Agency is looking into the accuracy of those fuel economy claims, and Consumer Reports has said its testing showed the numbers to be "far below" Ford's estimates.

Even so, the hybrid model got far better fuel economy than the identically priced gasoline-only version, an all-wheel-drive model that managed just 17 mpg during our testing, compared with an EPA rating of 22 mpg in the city and 31 on the highway.

This gas engine is a turbocharged 2.0-liter EcoBoost four-cylinder unit with 240 horsepower and 270 pound-feet of torque, paired with a reluctant six-speed automatic

transmission.

Both Lincoln MKZ models we tested maintained the excellent poise and communication with the driver that make the lesser Ford Fusion an engaging drive. The MKZ keeps any engine noise at bay by adding a standard noise-canceling system to the interior. Unfortunately, this was offset by the noisy, high-performance tires Lincoln had fitted on our test car.

The basic layout of the MKZ's cabin is also similar to the Fusion's. The dashboard, refreshingly free from clutter or intruding panels, is one of the cleanest you'll find. Lincoln simplifies things further by replacing the gearshift lever with a vertical series of buttons mounted along the left side of the navigation screen.

Those shift buttons end up being one of the few things you can actually push inside the MKZ. Most of the controls for the car's functions lie within the 10-inch touch screen that houses the Sync infotainment system.

The MKZ's biggest fault may be the drab interior, with few of the wood flourishes or metal accents that distinguish most luxury cars. The occupants of a Lincoln deserve better.

The exterior, by contrast, represents a compelling departure from old Lincolns. The coupe-like styling, with a gradually sloping rear window and short trunk lid, is in keeping with the current trend among European luxury cars.

The trunk lid on the MKZ also sits high, relative to the car's cabin. A thin strip of LED taillights runs the width of the car's rear end, evoking a design seen on Lincolns from decades past, along with a much-needed dose of sophistication.

UNDER THE HOOD

New tire must match the old

By BRAD BERGHOLDT
MCCLATCHY-TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

QUESTION: When a tire on my 2009 Subaru Forester was ruined, I tried to get it replaced under a hazard warranty. First the serviceman told me I needed to replace two tires because the vehicle is all-wheel drive and he couldn't replace just one. Then they told me they had to replace all four. I think it was because they didn't have the same type. What is the harm in replacing one tire that had less than 700 miles? They didn't have the exact same model of tire, but it was the same

manufacturer, size and speed rating. I didn't want to leave the store with a \$700 bill and three almost brand-new spare tires, so I bought the one tire and mounted it on the rear passenger side. —Rubin Mack

ANSWER: Rubin, it's true your Forester's four tires need to be virtually identical in rolling circumference to avoid excessively wearing or damaging certain all-wheel-drive components.

Tire size, tread wear and rolling deflection, which is affected by tread type and inflation pressure, determine how many revolutions per mile each tire will make. Subaru

recommends keeping all four tires within a quarter-inch in circumference, or 2/32-inch tread wear. This is about three revolutions per mile.

Mixing tire models, even of the same brand and size, could result in a differing circumference. TireRack.com lists, as available from manufacturers, revolutions per mile for many tire brands/models. Try comparing your existing tire model to the one purchased. If the revolutions per mile is plus/minus 3, you should be OK. I'm assuming all existing tires had only 700 miles wear, with practically no loss of rubber.

If specs are unavailable for your tires, find a straight, secluded roadway and mark

each properly inflated tire at the twelve o'clock position with chalk or a piece of tape. Drive 0.1 mile and recheck position, then 0.2 miles. You'll quickly get some data to project any differences in revolutions per mile.

It's a good idea for all-wheel-drive vehicle owners to include their full size spare with each tire rotation service so it remains the same size as its siblings. In the event a tire becomes injured and needs replacement, the spare becomes the replacement and the new, slightly larger tire goes to live in the trunk. Maintaining proper tire inflation pressure is also important.

For a great source of additional information on this topic, go to

TireRack.com and click "Shopping Tools" in the top navigation bar, then click "Tech Center." Select "Matching Tires on Four-Wheel Drive and All-Wheel Drive Vehicles." You'll also find very well-written articles on dozens of tire, wheel, brake, suspension and lighting topics.

■ ■ ■

Q: My 2009 Lincoln MKZ with 35,000 miles is in great shape with no problems. I like to change the brake fluid every three or four years. Am I safe doing this myself—I have plenty of experience—or do I need to take it to the dealer because of the antilock brake system?? —Jim Fitch

A: This is a good move. Because of complex fluid paths

within the ABS brake system, Lincoln recommends pressure bleeding and refilling the system, as opposed to manual bleeding. The needed tool can be found for \$100-\$150, and the process is fairly simple for folks who can twist a wrench.

Be sure to follow published procedures and use high performance DOT-3 brake fluid that meets or exceeds WSS-M6C62-A or WSS-M6C65-A1 specifications.

Brad Bergholdt is an automotive technology instructor at Evergreen Valley College in San Jose, Calif. Readers may send him email at under-the-hood@earthlink.net; he cannot make personal replies.

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The Croods 3D

Friday		7:15
Saturday	1:15	7:15
Sunday	1:15	7:15
Monday & Tuesday	1:15	7:15

Cast: Emma Stone, Nicolas Cage, Ryan Reynolds
Genre: Children's/Family • Rated PG



The Croods 2D

Friday	4:15	9:30
Saturday	4:15	9:30
Sunday	4:15	
Monday & Tuesday	4:15	

Cast: Emma Stone, Nicolas Cage, Ryan Reynolds
Genre: Children's/Family • Rated PG



Olympus Has Fallen

Friday	4:30	7:30	9:55
Saturday	1:30	4:30	7:30
Sunday	1:30	4:30	7:30
Monday & Tuesday	1:30	4:30	7:30

Cast: Gerard Butler, Morgan Freeman, Aaron Eckhart
Genre: Action • Rated R

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The Incredible Burt Wonderstone

Friday	4:05	7:05	9:35
Saturday	1:05	4:05	7:05
Sunday	1:05	4:05	7:05
Monday & Tuesday	1:05	4:05	7:05

Cast: Steve Carell, Olivia Wilde, Steve Buscemi
Genre: Comedy • Rated PG 13



Oz The Great and Powerful 3D

Friday		7:00	10:00
Saturday	1:00	7:00	10:00
Sunday	1:00	7:00	
Monday & Tuesday	1:00	7:00	

Cast: James Franco, Rachel Weisz, Michelle Williams
Genre: Fantasy • Rated PG



Oz The Great and Powerful 2D

Friday	4:00	
Saturday	4:00	
Sunday	4:00	
Monday & Tuesday	4:00	

Cast: James Franco, Rachel Weisz, Michelle Williams
Genre: Fantasy • Rated PG



Jack The Giant Slayer 3D

Friday		7:20
Saturday	1:20	7:20
Sunday	1:20	7:20
Monday & Tuesday	1:20	7:20

Cast: Nicholas Hoult, John Kassir, Ewan McGregor
Genre: Fantasy • Rated PG 13



Jack The Giant Slayer 2D

Friday	4:20	9:50
Saturday	4:20	9:50
Sunday	4:20	
Monday & Tuesday	4:20	

Cast: Nicholas Hoult, John Kassir, Ewan McGregor
Genre: Fantasy • Rated PG 13



21 and Over

Friday	4:25	7:25	9:40
Saturday	1:25	4:25	7:25
Sunday	1:25	4:25	7:25
Monday & Tuesday	1:25	4:25	7:25

Cast: Justin Chon, Miles Teller, Jonathan Keltz
Genre: Comedy • Rated R



Snitch

Friday	4:10	7:10	9:45
Saturday	1:10	4:10	7:10
Sunday	1:10	4:10	7:10
Monday & Tuesday	1:10	4:10	7:10

Cast: Dwane Johnson, Benjamin Bratt, Barry Pepper
Genre: Action • Rated PG 13

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Life & Style

Joe Weider, fitness mentor to Schwarzenegger, dies

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Joe Weider, a legendary figure in bodybuilding who helped popularize the sport worldwide and played a key role in introducing a charismatic young weightlifter named Arnold Schwarzenegger to the world, died Saturday. He was 93.

Weider's publicist, Charlotte Parker, told The Associated Press that the bodybuilder, publisher and promoter died of heart failure at his home in Los Angeles' San Fernando Valley.

"I knew about Joe Weider long before I met him," Schwarzenegger, who tweeted the news of his old friend's death, said in a lengthy statement posted on his website. "He was the godfather of fitness who told all of us to be somebody with a body. He taught us that through hard work and training we could all be champions."

A bodybuilder with an impressive physique himself, Weider became better known in later years as a behind-the-scenes guru to the sport.

He popularized bodybuilding and spread the message of health and fitness worldwide with such publications as Muscle & Fitness, Flex and Shape. Schwarzenegger himself is the executive editor of Muscle & Fitness and Flex.

He created one of bodybuilding's pre-eminent events, the Mr. Olympia competition, in 1965, adding to it the Ms. Olympia contest in 1980, the Fitness Olympia in 1995 and the Figure Olympia in 2003.

'The Croods' catches fire with \$44.7M opening

LOS ANGELES (AP)—The caveman comedy "The Croods" left an indelible mark on the wall, opening at No. 1 with \$44.7 million, according to Sunday studio estimates.

The 3-D adventure from DreamWorks Animation and 20th Century Fox features a voice cast including Nicolas Cage, Emma Stone and Catherine Keener. They play a prehistoric family encountering danger and strange new creatures when they're forced to find a new cave.

Opening strongly in second place with \$30.5 million was "Olympus Has Fallen," an action thriller from "Training Day" director Antoine Fuqua in which North Korean terrorists take over the White House. Gerard Butler, as a secret service agent, leads an all-star cast that includes Aaron Eckhart as the president, Morgan Freeman and Angela Bassett.



This Oct. 25, 2003 file photo shows then California Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger, right, raising the arm of Joe Weider, the creator of Mr. Olympia Bodybuilding competition, during the 39th annual Mr. Olympia event in Las Vegas.

He also relentlessly promoted Schwarzenegger, who won the Mr. Olympia title a then-record seven times, including in 1980 and every year from 1970 through 1975.

"Every sport needs a hero, and I knew that Arnold was the right man," he said.

Weider brought Schwarzenegger to the United States early in his career, where he helped train the future governor of California as well as aided him in getting into business. Schwarzenegger also said Weider helped land him his first movie role, in the forgettable film "Hercules in New York," by passing off the Austrian-born weightlifter to the producers as a German Shakespearean actor.

"Joe didn't just inspire my earliest dreams; he made them come true the day he invited me to move to America to pursue my bodybuilding career," the

actor said in his statement. "I will never forget his generosity. One of Joe's greatest qualities is that he wasn't just generous with his money; he freely gave of his time and expertise and became a father figure for me."

Weider also mentored numerous other bodybuilders.

Born in Canada in 1919, Weider recalled growing up in a tough section of Montreal.

Just like the apocryphal tale of the skinny kid who starts working out after a bully kicks sand in his face, Weider said he was indeed a small, skinny teenager picked on by bullies when he came across the magazine Strength.

He had tried to join a local wrestling team, he said, but was turned down by the coach who feared he was so small he'd be hurt.

Inspired by the magazine, he built his own weights from scrap parts found in a railroad yard and pumped

them relentlessly.

Word of his efforts got around and he was invited to join a weightlifting club.

"When I saw the gym, saw the guys working out, supporting one another, I was mesmerized," he recalled.

He won his first bodybuilding ranking at age 17, and soon after began to publish his first magazine, Your Physique.

Later he started a mail-order barbell business, and in 1946 he and his younger brother staged the first Mr. Canada contest in at Montreal's Monument National Theater. At the same time, they formed the International Federation of Bodybuilders.

In recent years, Weider donated much of his bodybuilding memorabilia to the University of Texas at Austin, which opened the Joe and Betty Weider Museum of Physical Culture in 2011.

He is survived by his wife.

gone on, it's gotten better. This is the first action thriller in a while that's gotten an A-minus CinemaScore, so it's obvious that people are talking about it and enjoying it."

This one-two punch of "Croods" and "Olympus"—two movies that appealed to two very different audiences—was much-needed at the box office, which is down 13 percent from the same period last year, said Paul Dergarabedian, box office analyst for Hollywood.com.

"I was really surprised by 'Olympus.' This year, the R-rated action films have all fallen flat," Dergarabedian said, including "The Last Stand" and "Parker." "The marketing was good. Gerard Butler—he's the real deal, he looks the part and everything. And the theme of the movie, the fact that the president is under siege—it worked on 'Air Force One.' There's something about that theme that works for audiences."

another terrific movie from DreamWorks Animation, is a great start to the spring holiday," Aronson said.

"Olympus Has Fallen" also opened higher than expectations—much higher—given that FilmDistrict figured it would end up somewhere in the under-\$20 million range, said president of distribution Jim Orr. This is by far the biggest debut for the independent distributor, which was just founded in September 2010; the previous best was the \$14.3 million the "Red Dawn" remake made over last year's Thanksgiving weekend.

"Millennium Films and Antoine Fuqua delivered a brilliant, action-packed, serious thriller with an all-star cast led by Gerard Butler, and the word of mouth seems to be terrific," said Orr. "It not only exceeded all our pre-weekend estimates, as the weekend has

"The Croods" has now made \$108 million worldwide, also opening this weekend in Russia, the United Kingdom, Germany and Spain. In the United States, it's the only game in town as far as animated films for the whole family, and it will continue to be so as kids head out of school for spring break over the next couple of weeks.

"It's a terrific crowd-pleaser, it got an A CinemaScore and an A-plus with audiences under 18, which leads me to believe a lot of kids loved the movie," said Anne Globe, chief marketing officer for DreamWorks Animation.

Chris Aronson, president of domestic distribution for 20th Century Fox, said "The Croods" had a stronger opening than the \$40 million the studio had projected.

"To come in at the \$45 million mark, ahead of 'How to Train Your Dragon,' which was

Leno makes meal of NBC bosses in monologue

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Jay Leno is keeping up a comedy assault on his NBC bosses even after being treated to a make-nice dinner.

During his monologue Friday, the “Tonight Show” host asked his Burbank studio audience if they’d heard about his “alleged feud” with NBC.

Leno started taking on-air potshots at the network this month amid reports that the network plans to replace him at “Tonight” with Jimmy Fallon.

According to a NBC transcript from Friday’s taping, Leno said that he had dinner Thursday with a “bunch of NBC executives” who offered to make things up to him: He and his wife are going on an all-expenses paid Carnival Cruise, he joked.

In February, passengers endured five nightmarish days on a crippled Carnival Cruise ship in the Gulf of Mexico.

In another wisecrack, Leno cited news reports of a Canadian man who had a knife pulled from his back after three years. Sniped Leno: “He must have worked at NBC, too.”

NBC confirmed this week it’s creating a new studio for Fallon in New York, where he hosts “Late Night.” But the network did not



This Sept. 21, 2012 photo released by NBC shows Jay Leno, host of “The Tonight Show with Jay Leno,” on the set in Burbank, Calif. As Jay Leno lobs potshots at ratings-challenged NBC in his “Tonight Show” monologues, speculation is swirling the network is taking steps to replace the host with Jimmy Fallon next year and move the show from Burbank to New York.

comment on a report that the digs at its Rockefeller Plaza headquarters may become home to a transplanted, Fallon-hosted “Tonight.”

This isn’t the first time the “Tonight” stage has been used for a workplace dispute. In 2010, when Conan O’Brien briefly took over as “Tonight” host and Leno was moved to prime-time at NBC, the two traded on-air barbs.

Although late-night hosts are known for needling their network bosses, the timing of Leno’s latest jabs seemed to make NBC’s executives particularly uncomfortable and they asked him to stop. They don’t want a repeat of the publicly messy turnover of just three years ago.

The 62-year-old Leno’s current contract expires next year. For NBC, the 38-year-old Fallon represents a bid to launch a next-generation host for “Tonight”—although Leno has kept the show No. 1 in the ratings despite a challenge from Jimmy Kimmel’s ABC show, which was moved back an hour to compete with it.

“You know the whole legend of St. Patrick, right? St. Patrick drove all the snakes out of Ireland—and then they came to the United States and became NBC executives,” Leno joked on Monday’s show.

Will Fallon host ‘Tonight’ (and other questions)?

NEW YORK (AP)—Why couldn’t NBC just leave well enough alone?

But, no, word leaked last week that “Late Night” host Jimmy Fallon will unseat Jay Leno as the new host of the “Tonight” show.

This change (which, mind you, NBC hasn’t confirmed) isn’t likely to stop the world in its tracks. Still, the prospect of another round of talk-show turbulence has everybody talking, and the questions it raises could keep a viewer awake long past Fallon’s current 12:30 a.m. time slot.

■ The biggest question: Why do we care?

Because the late-night follies of television executives are often funnier than TV’s intended entertainment. Name an NBC program with more laughs, in-

trigue, double-dealing and disgrace than when the network moved Jay Leno to prime time and handed Conan O’Brien the “Tonight” show, then reversed itself several months later, bringing back Leno and losing Conan (along with his \$45 million exit payment). These days NBC’s prime time is in shambles. Bumbling at “Today” ended NBC’s morning dominance. Can NBC go three-for-three by screwing with its late-night lineup?

■ What will it mean to have the “Tonight” show back in New York?

Count on a more intense booking war for CBS’ “Late Show with David Letterman” with a new player in town. Meanwhile, it should be a blow to civic pride in Los Angeles, where Johnny



This Feb. 21, 2013 photo released by NBC shows Jimmy Fallon, host of “Late Night with Jimmy Fallon,” on the set in New York.

Carson relocated in 1972 because he preferred living there to Manhattan. But it may help ABC’s “Jimmy Kimmel Live,”

CBS’ “The Late Late Show with Craig Ferguson” and TBS’ “Conan” book top-level guests for their shows.

Grown-up Minnie Mouse gets mature Lanvin make-over

CHESSY, France (AP)—Forever-young Minnie Mouse is growing up and moving on from her old red and white polka dots.

Lanvin has designed the loveable Disney rodent a new dress—a more mature frock in royal blue and long sleeves that she can wear at special Paris events.

It was unveiled at a catwalk show in Disneyland Paris on Saturday evening.

Gone was the oversized hair bow that has been the signature of the character since she was created in 1928. In its place, the catwalk presentation showcased a smaller-sized red tiara alongside a thick, bejeweled hourglass gown with padded shoulders.

“Walt Disney was the one



Israeli fashion designer Alber Elbaz poses with Minnie wearing a dress by Lanvin fashion house and designed by Alber Elbaz, at the Eurodisney Parc, in Marne la Vallée, east of Paris, Saturday, March 23, 2013.

that actually designed Minnie. It’s the first time an actual designer has come into the picture and designed a dress for her,” Lanvin’s designer Alber Elbaz told The Associated Press following the show.

“It was a great challenge and responsibility to do. I just wanted her to shine... I wanted to give her a crown in red, and the dress in blue, (a signature) for Lanvin.”

The dress got applause from the celebrity-filled front row including actress Virginie Ledoyen and model Natalia Vodianova.

But the more mature look—which also did away with her famed white bloomers—didn’t impress everyone.

“It’s definitely more mature. It looks a bit mother of the bride,”

said spectator Matthew Gallagher. “I preferred the polka dots.”

Traditionalists will be pleased to know that Disney says Minnie will be allowed to keep her red and white look for normal events.

Minnie has also kept her full hourglass figure. Last October, images destined for Barneys New York shop window were criticized after Minnie became a long, lean high-fashion model.

Dubbed “skinny Minnie” the short film featured the mouse-fatale in a hot-pink, ruffle covered Lanvin dress—with longer legs, leaner arms and daintier gloved hands.

“We’re not here to transform people,” said Elbaz. “We love her the way she is.”

Man hesitates before making commitment to messy marriage

By **ABIGAIL VAN BUREN**
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE



DEAR ABBY: “Rita” and I have been together three years and are getting ready to make the final commitment of marriage. My problem is that she’s a slob. Rita isn’t a “hoarder,” but she does things like take the plastic off a package and drop it on the floor. (Don’t get me started on the mess she leaves in the bathroom.)

I love her and would be willing to have separate bathrooms if that’s what it takes. But I don’t want to spend the rest of my life in a house that looks the way hers does right now. The thought of raising kids in that kind of atmosphere chills me.

I’m no neat freak, but at least I put my trash in the wastebasket. Rita gets offended if I raise the issue. I have offered to help her clean her house, but I don’t want to nag because her mother already does, and it makes Rita respond like a defiant child.

Have you any ideas about what I can do to keep our relationship—and hopefully our future—intact?

WHATEVER RITA WANTS

DEAR WHATEVER: It appears your girlfriend wants to continue living exactly the way she is. Because she becomes defensive at the suggestion that she make a better effort, accept that you are not going to change her. She obviously has many good qualities or your relationship would not have made it this far.

There is help for people who are disorganized and sloppy, but only if they are willing to accept that they need it. Some people have successfully used a system originated by Marla Cilley, aka the FlyLady. (“Fly” stands for “Finally Loving Yourself.”) To find out more about her system, visit www.flylady.net and click on “Get Started.”

■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: I’m stuck in a dead-end job that doesn’t pay much money, so I have to rely on help from my parents. I’d like to return to school for my master’s, but a lack of funds and mild depression keep pulling me back.

I told my mother about how I have been feeling, hoping for reassurance—just a general, “Everything is going to get better.” This is a woman who has longed for me to get married and have children, which I thought was no different than most mothers. I now realize I was wrong. Her motivation speech was: “You have always been beautiful and I want you to see it. Don’t you know that you’re good enough to become a rich man’s wife?”

Now I realize that being a rich man’s wife is what she always wanted for me. I always thought I could be more than that and support myself without the need of a man. I also believed I could one day be a writer.

Independence has always been important to me, and I would never marry unless I was. Now, however, my self-esteem is shot, and since I can’t afford therapy, I feel my mother’s plan is probably the only thing I can hope for. How can I improve my self-esteem so I can make the right decision?

DEPRESSED IN LEWISVILLE, TEXAS

DEAR DEPRESSED: A good first step would be to stop listening to your mother. Live your own life, and now that you know what poor judgment she has, make your own decisions about the path you will follow.

A suggestion: Write the story down and be sure to mention how you persisted in spite of your mother’s advice. You may find inspiration in your own words. And if it’s published, so might others.

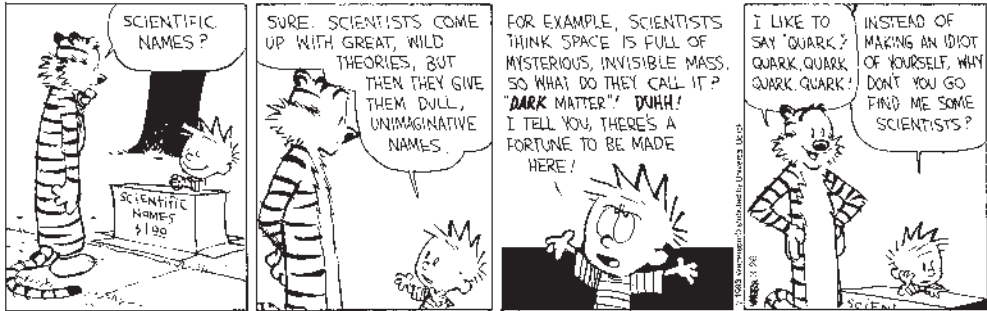
Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

Good advice for everyone – teens to seniors – is in “The Anger in All of Us and How to Deal With It.” To order, send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Anger Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson



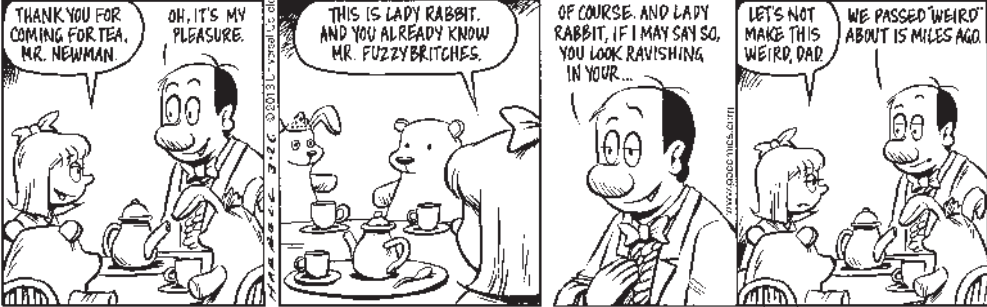
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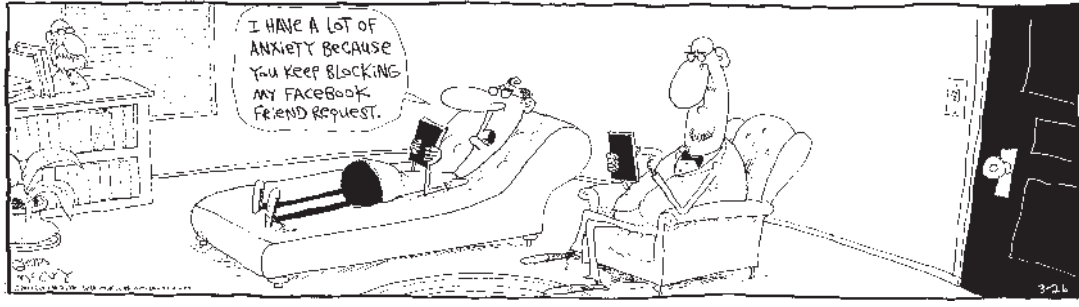
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By Bryan Basset



The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

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Yesterday's answer 3-26

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Keira Knightley, 28; Kenny Chesney, 45; Martin Short, 63; Steven Tyler, 65.

Happy Birthday: Look for the positive in every situation. Take what you know and apply it to what's being asked of you. Use your intuition to guide you to victory. Embrace the past and use it to create a better future. Live in the moment and recognize opportunities. You have much to gain if you approach change with enthusiasm. Your numbers are 8, 10, 17, 20, 29, 31, 38.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Recognize who is on your side and who isn't before you put pressure on the wrong person. It's best to do what you can on your own so that you can control the situation and the outcome. Keep impulsiveness to a minimum. ***

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Call in favors, and get involved in events that keep you in touch with people who work in your field. Your intuition will not let you down when dealing with personal or business partners. Stick close to home and be diplomatic. *****

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Keep your emotions tucked away and under control. Focus on helping others and setting a high standard. Love and romance should be high on your list, but don't feel you have to spend money to make an impression. Maintain moderation. **

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Listen to your inner voice. Much can be accomplished if you refuse to let the little problems bother you. Someone may try to pressure you,

but if you use your intelligence and your imagination, you will come out the victor. ****

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Don't sit still when there is so much you can do to make your life better. Focus on location, learning and love and you will satisfy your needs. Traveling for business or pleasure will enhance your attitude and your status. ***

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): An investment may tempt you, but before taking part in something that sounds too good to be true, do your due diligence. False information or exaggeration is apparent regarding partnerships and joint ventures. Conservative action will be necessary. ***

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Travel and communication will lead to stronger alliances and opportunities as long as you call the shots. Love is on the rise, and a partnership should be handled with finesse. First impressions can shape what's to come. ***

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Size up your domestic situation and adjust your plans to suit your budget. An interest, hobby or talent you have should be where you invest your time, effort or cash. Serious consideration to the options you are given will lead to success. ***

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Honesty will help you avoid prolonged problems. A love relationship will grow stronger if you are willing to confide and share your thoughts and intentions. Altering how you live will bring you greater happiness. **

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Before agreeing to any requests, check out how reasonable it is for you to follow through. You may want to opt out and follow your own path. Follow your intuition and you will advance. Minor mishaps are apparent. *****

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Reconnect with past partners and friends. The advantage you have now will allow you to take control of your situation and marry old ideas with your current plans. Love is on the rise, and opportunity to improve your direction is evident. ***

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): A serious contract or money issue can be resolved if you are creative in the way you handle matters. An intuitive move can spare you grief if you can manage to avoid someone trying to coerce you into spending or taking on too much. ***

Birthday Baby: You have vision and tenacity. You set high standards and make reforms.

Eugenia's website—eugenialast.com, Eugenia's android app @ <http://bit.ly/exhoro> and join Eugenia on twitter/facebook/linkedin.

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku By Dave Green

				4		8		9
	2		6		4			
				8			1	2
	3		2					
9		4				5		1
					5		7	
5	1			2				
		3			9		4	
8		6		3				

Difficulty Level ★★ 3/26

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Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer

4	5	3	2	1	8	7	9	6
8	9	1	7	4	6	2	3	5
2	6	7	5	9	3	1	4	8
9	1	4	3	8	5	6	2	7
6	8	2	4	7	1	9	5	3
3	7	5	6	2	9	8	1	4
7	2	8	9	3	4	5	6	1
1	3	6	8	5	2	4	7	9
5	4	9	1	6	7	3	8	2

Difficulty Level ★ 3/25

WONDERWORD By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD. The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

SWEET POTATOS Solution: 8 letters

R	B	F	D	S	W	E	E	T	T	C	S	K	I	N
I	O	L	I	E	S	E	G	D	E	O	K	L	O	W
S	I	A	E	B	C	M	R	S	N	A	C	K	O	H
O	L	V	S	N	E	I	A	H	D	T	I	C	Y	O
T	E	O	P	T	G	R	L	S	E	B	T	I	A	L
T	D	R	U	E	T	I	S	R	A	S	H	M	E	
O	I	I	O	S	A	D	H	O	J	D	L	T	A	M
R	N	C	S	E	O	W	W	U	I	P	T	S	I	
A	N	H	T	D	N	N	S	F	I	P	U	H	H	L
N	E	Y	I	E	P	S	E	R	C	S	R	I	E	Y
G	R	S	Y	O	S	K	A	I	E	S	E	N	D	K
E	H	H	T	V	H	C	O	E	O	V	E	N	E	N
S	N	A	P	N	A	A	E	S	T	E	W	S	I	U
Y	T	L	A	S	K	R	S	E	P	I	C	E	R	H
O	D	F	L	E	E	P	G	A	R	L	I	C	F	C

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Boiled, Brown, Chunky, Coat, Dinner, Dips, Edges, Fiber, Flavor, Fried, Fries, Garlic, Gravy, Half, Healthy, Honey, Juice, Large, Lengthwise, Lime, Low, Mashed, Mayo, Orange, Oven, Pans, Peel, Potato, Puree, Racks, Recipes, Rich, Risotto, Roasted, Salty, Shake, Side Dish, Skin, Sliced, Snack, Soups, Stews, Sticks, Sweet, Tasty, Tender, Thick, Thin, Toss, Trim, Whole

Yesterday's Answer: Tidal

STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call 1-900-226-5955! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

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Looking for used cars Year 2003 & up and Truck. Good condition. We pay cash!. Call 287-7676.

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(1) Sales & Marketing Coordinator. Salary: \$7-\$8/hr. With 2-4 years of work experience. Send resume to SMJ Corporation, P.O. Box 503944 Saipan, MP 96950.

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Lower Navy Hill Apts. 3BR & 2BTH. Rooms w/ A/C & fully furnished. Back-up generator. Free Wi-Fi, EPA Solar Water Heater. Laundry area. Unit approximately 600sq.ft. Nighttime security. \$450/mo. Call for an appointment 235-6527/28 or 285-1317.

Fina Sisu Apt., 2-BR, 1-BTH, FF, AC, BU Genset/24-hr water, security, laundry room, free Wi-Fi & ample parking. Close to NMC campus. MIHA applicants accepted. \$450-\$550/mo. Pls. visit our website www.saipan-properties.com. Call for an appointment 235-6527/8 or 285-1317.

WORLD INTERNATIONAL CORPORATION
JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT
(2) GENERAL MAINTENANCE
Salary Rate: \$5.55 per hour
QUALIFICATIONS:
• At least 2 – 3 years experience in a Commercial Building Maintenance. Preferably in Carpentry and Masonry.
• Full-time with flexible working hours
Please mail your resume to PMB 654 Box 10000 Saipan, MP 96950 or contact our Office at Tel.: (670) 233-1545 between 2:30PM to 9:00PM.

JAGUAR LIMITED dba: CLUB MERMAID
JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT
GENERAL MANAGER
Salary Rate: \$1,500.00 per month
ASSISTANT MANAGER
Salary Rate: \$5.55 per hour
QUALIFICATIONS:
• Must have at least 10 years experience as a MANAGER OR ASSISTANT MANAGER in operating a night bar or an entertainment business
• At least a College graduate preferably Accounting major
• Do Monthly Financial Analysis and Reports
• Knowledgeable in Peachtree accounting
• Can prepare and remit company taxes
• Do staff schedules and monitors inventory of the night club
• Full-time with flexible working hours
• Can speak fluently in Japanese language
Please mail your resume to P.O. Box 502589 Saipan, MP 96950 or contact our Office at Tel.: (670) 233-1545 between 2:30PM to 9:00PM

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JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT
Closing Date: March 29, 2013
(2) BARBER
(3) ALL AROUND BEAUTICIAN
Please send resume to MANTRADE COMPANY INC. P.O. Box 506118, Saipan, MP 96950

JAGUAR LIMITED dba: CLUB MERMAID
JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT
SUPERVISOR
Salary Rate: \$10.00 - \$12.00 per hour
QUALIFICATIONS:
• Must have at least 5 – 10 years experience as a Supervisor in operating a night bar or an entertainment business.
• Do monthly financial analysis and reports.
• Do staff schedules and monitors inventory of the night club.
• Full-time with flexible working hours.
• Can speak fluently in Japanese language or Japanese citizen.
BARTENDER
Salary Rate: \$5.55 per hour
QUALIFICATIONS:
• Must have at least 3 – 5 years experience.
• Full-time with flexible working hours.
Please mail your resume to P.O. Box 502589 Saipan, MP 96950 or contact our Office at Tel.: (670) 233-1545 between 2:30PM to 9:00PM

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT
(2) Yard Worker
Bush cut grass, trim plants, rake & clean yard and other related duties as assigned. Minimum wage. No benefits. Must have own transportation, provide police clearance & drug test.
Apply at Bo's Yard & Lawn Service, Capitol Hill, Saipan. Tel.: 322-1299.

Immediate Hiring STEVEDORE
• TWIC card holder preferred.
• Prospective applicants will be subject to pre-employment drug test.
Opening Date: Mar. 25, 2013 • Closing Date: Mar. 27, 2013
Please submit résumé to saisteve@pticom.com

CLICK IT OR TICKET DAY & NIGHT

JAPAN ENTERPRISES CORPORATION
DBA: CLUB MICRONESIA
JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT
(3) WAITRESSES
Salary Rate: \$5.55 per hour
QUALIFICATIONS:
• At least 21 – 25 years old with pleasing personality
• 2 – 3 years experience as a waitress in a bar or an entertainment business
• Full-time with flexible working hours
• Can read and speak fluently in Japanese language
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(1) COOK
Minimum of 5 year experience of Korean food. Provide own transportation, flexible work hours.
Send resume to tnxod98@naver.com or sylviancmi@gmail.com

PACIFIC BASIN INSURANCE COMPANY
Job Vacancy Announcement
Accountant (1) Insurance
Minimum experience of five years
Bachelor degree in Accounting
Knowledge in PeachTree Complete Accounting Software
Insurance Underwriter (1)
Minimum experience of five years
Bachelor degree in Commerce or Education
Knowledge in Quickbook software
Interested applicants may apply at Pacific Basin Insurance Co. office. An insurance written test maybe required.

St. Jude Renal Care Facility, Inc.
Job Vacancy Announcement
(02) REGISTERED NURSE
• Must pass NCLEX-RN and current CNMI RN License
• Attended a hemodialysis training program
• Must hold a degree in Bachelor of Science in Nursing
• One to five years hemodialysis experience or related field
• English Language skill-Proficient in verbal, written and comprehension
• Certification in Basic Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation
• Certified Nephrology Nurse (CNN)-Preferred
• In-service train with Baxter phoenix machine
• Experience with Ameriwater bicarbonate distribution system
• Must be flexible with time schedule
Interested applicants must submit application or resume to St. Jude Renal Care Facility, Inc., at Chalan Kiya, Saipan. Deadline to submit application will be on 03/29/13 at 4:00 pm. For more information, please call Judy Arriola at (670) 234-2903 ext. 124.

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is inviting qualified U.S. workers to apply for the following positions:
(1) WEB MARKETING MANAGER/GRAPHIC DESIGNER
College degree required; Must have experience in reviewing and analyzing web analytics tools; Must be proficient in the use of Apple MC, MS Office, Epitome, HTML and web design; Must be proficient in graphic design software in a MAC environment using: Adobe Photoshop Creative Suite 6.0, Adobe Indesign and Adobe Illustrator; Must have strong organizational skills along with the ability to create high visual impact designs.
(1) JAPAN MARKETING ASSISTANT
College degree preferred with at least three (3) years of work experience in the hospitality industry. Must be proficient in speaking, reading, and writing in the English and Japanese language; Must be proficient in the use of Microsoft Word, Excel, Access, PowerPoint as well as Japanese software applications; Internet research abilities and strong communication skills is required. Must be able to work evenings/weekends/holidays
(4) STEWARD
Minimum three (3) months work experience; Must be able to work evenings/weekends/holidays
(2) SALES ASSOCIATE
Minimum one (1) year work experience; Previous experience in retail sales, cash handling and using sales systems preferred. Must be computer literate and have excellent communication skills (oral and written) as well as excellent customer service skills. Korean, Japanese or Russian language skills a plus, but not required. Must be able to work evenings/weekends/holidays
(1) WAITSTAFF
Minimum three (3) months work experience; Must be able to work evenings/weekends/holidays
APPLICATIONS MUST BE COMPLETE AT THE TIME OF SUBMISSION.
Incomplete applications will NOT be accepted or considered.
PIC applications are available at the PIC Security Desk by the Loading Dock/Employee Entrance. A copy of valid police clearance (less than 6 months old) must be attached to the application. Skills testing may be required for some positions. PIC is an Equal Opportunity Employer.
Completed applications must be received by 5:00pm on APRIL 4, 2013.

WHATZIT Solution: The knives are out

CLASSIFIEDS RATES AND POLICIES

Saipan Tribune's Classifieds Section gives you the right exposure without hurting your pockets. Stretch your dollar and get results.

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Saipan Tribune also offers a Super Saver Package—a complete 5-day run in both print and online editions, for as low as \$30 for garage sales, apartment rentals, help wanted, auto and more. You can choose from any of the packages below.

ADS	(PRINT)	COMBO (PRINT AND ONLINE)
• 3-Liner	\$15	\$30
• 5-Liner	\$24	\$45

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Classified Ads

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

CANCELLATION

Classified Ads

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

REFUNDS

Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

CHECK YOUR ADS

Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. Saipan Tribune reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

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All advertising in the Saipan Tribune are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, Saipan Tribune reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

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Find the familiar phrase, saying or name in this arrangement of letters.
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STEEL WORKER (08) \$5.60 - 6.50 PER HOUR
Must be a high school graduate with minimum of 5 years experience as a steel worker with knowledge how to raise, place and unite iron or steel girders, R columns and structural members to form a completed structures or structural frameworks. May erect metal storage tanks and assemble prefabricated metal buildings. Position and secure steel bars or mesh in concrete forms in order to reinforce concrete. Use a variety of fasteners, rod-bending machines, blowtorches, and hand tools. Includes rod busters.
TRUCK DRIVER (10) -\$5.60 - 6.25 PER HOUR
Must be a high school graduate with minimum of 5-10 years experience as a truck driver with knowledge in Driving a factor-trailer combination or truck with a capacity of at least 26,000 GVW, to transport and deliver quarry materials, heavy equipment's or material in liquid, loose or packaged form.
PLUMBER (05) \$5.60-6.75 PER HOUR
Must be a high school graduate with minimum of 5- years experience as a plumber with knowledge to assemble, install alter and repair pipelines or pipe systems that carry water, steam, air or other liquids or gases. May install heating and cooling equipment and mechanical control systems. Includes sprinkler fitters assemble
CIVIL ENGINEERING TECHNICIANS (02) \$5.80 PER HOUR OR \$1,300.00 per month
Must be a college graduate with minimum of 5- years experience as a Civil Engineering Technician plumber with knowledge how to apply theory and principles of civil engineering in planning, designing and overseeing construction and maintenance of structures and facilities under the directions of engineering staff or physical scientists.
All positions close on March 29, 2013 . Interested applicants may apply at GPPC, INC. office located at As Perdido , Saipan. A copy of police clearance must be attached to the application. Incomplete application will NOT be accepted. Skills, testing maybe required. GPPC, INC is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

No. 15 Florida Gulf Coast beats SDSU, 81-71



PHILADELPHIA—Not even many basketball fans knew about Florida Gulf Coast just a couple of weeks ago. They do now—the Eagles are the first No. 15 seed to make the Sweet 16.

Bernard Thompson scored 23 points and Sherwood Robinson added 17 to lead FGCU to its second NCAA tournament win in as many tries, an 81-71 victory over San Diego State on Sunday night.

FGCU (26-10), which shocked the world in the second round with a 78-68 victory over second-seeded Georgetown, was just as entertaining and impressive in the third round, again using a big second-half run to take control of the game.

Now, the Eagles will face an opponent that should know a lot more about them. Third-seeded Florida will play FGCU on Friday night in the semifinals of the South Regional in Dallas.

The upstart state school against the main campus. Seems right up FGCU's alley.

Jamal Franklin had 20 points for the seventh-seeded Aztecs (23-11), who were trying to reach the regional semifinals for the second time in three years.

SOUTH REGIONAL Florida 78, Minnesota 64

In Austin, Texas, Mike Rosario scored 25 points and Florida used an overpowering first half to roll past Minnesota and into the NCAA tournament round of 16 for third consecutive year with a 78-64 win Sunday in the South Regional.

The No. 3 seed Gators (28-7) shot a blistering 65 percent in

the first half and led by 21 by halftime. The win earns Florida a return trip to the Lone Star State to play their next game at Cowboys Stadium in Arlington.

Andre Hollins scored 25 points to lead the No. 11-seed Gophers (21-13). Hollins' 3-point shooting sparked a second-half rally that pulled Minnesota within seven points, but Rosario's sixth 3-pointer with 3 minutes left pushed the Gators' lead back to 16 and effectively locked up the win.

WEST REGIONAL Ohio State 78, Iowa State 75

In Dayton, Ohio, Aaron Craft made a last-second, tie-breaking 3 and Ohio State remained the lone high seed left in the NCAA tournament's most-busted bracket.

Ohio State (28-7) needed Craft's only 3-pointer of the game—an arching shot over 6-foot-7 defender Georges Niang from the top of the key—to avoid yet another upset in the oh-so-wild West Regional. Four of the top five seeds fell fast and hard in the first weekend.

Craft left the Buckeyes in position to fritter away a late lead with some missed free throws, then saved them in the final second.

Craft also drew a charge on Iowa State's Will Clyburn near the basket with 1:41 on a play that could have put the Cyclones up by three. It was a close call. Replays showed Craft's right heel was at the semicircle restricting the area where players can take a charge.

Ohio State's 10th straight win sent the Buckeyes into the round of 16 for the fourth straight year, a school record. They'll play



Florida Gulf Coast's Sherwood Brown, left, and Chase Fieler celebrate after winning a third-round game against San Diego State in the NCAA college basketball tournament, Sunday, March 24, 2013, in Philadelphia.

sixth-seeded Arizona on Thursday in Los Angeles.

Tenth-seeded Iowa State (23-12) overcame a late 13-point deficit by hitting 3s — the Cyclones' specialty.

La Salle 76, Mississippi 74

In Kansas City, Mo., Tyrone Garland banked home a scooping layup with 2 seconds left and 13th-seeded La Salle beat

Mississippi, vaulting the Explorers to their deepest run since they played for the championship in 1955.

Ramon Galloway had 24 points for La Salle (24-9), which was playing its third game in five days. No. 12 Ole Miss (27-9) led 74-72 with 1:58 left but failed to reach the regional semifinals for the first time since 2001.

After Tyreek Duren's two foul shots tied it 74-all at the

1:07 mark, Marshall Henderson failed to hit an off-balance bank shot that would have given Mississippi the lead.

EAST REGIONAL Indiana 58, Temple 52

In Dayton, Ohio, on the verge of being the second No. 1 knocked from the NCAA tournament, Indiana finally stopped Temple's No. 1.

Victor Oladipo hit a key 3-pointer with 13 seconds remaining and the top-seeded Hoosiers, their season moments from ending in disappointment, shut down Owls star Khalif Wyatt in the final three minutes to hold off the Owls.

The Hoosiers (29-6) trailed by four with 2:56 left, but closed with a 10-0 run and advanced to the round of 16 for the second straight year.

Indiana will play No. 4 seed Syracuse in the regional semifinals on Thursday in Washington, a rematch of the classic 1987 title game won by the Hoosiers.

Wyatt scored 31 points to lead the Owls (24-10), who gave one of the Big Ten's big boys all they could handle before collapsing when it mattered most.

Oladipo, who spent the afternoon doing all he could to slow down Wyatt, scored 16 and Cody Zeller added 15 for the Hoosiers.

Kansas 70, North Carolina 58

In Kansas City, Mo., Kansas got the best of 'ol Roy and his Tar Heels once again.

Behind the impassioned play of Travis Releford and Jeff Withey, the top-seeded Jayhawks shook themselves out of

a first-half slumber and blitzed No. 8 seed North Carolina down the stretch.

Withey had 16 points and 16 rebounds, and Releford finished with 22 points for the Jayhawks (31-5), who also knocked former coach Roy Williams' team out of the NCAA tournament during their 2008 title run and again last season, when Kansas marched all the way to the Final Four.

It'll keep marching this year—at least to the Sweet 16—thanks to a superb second half.

P.J. Hairston scored 15 points and James Michael McAdoo finished with 11 for the Tar Heels (25-11).

Duke 66, Creighton 50

In Philadelphia, Rasheed Sulaimon scored 21 points, Seth Curry scored had 17 and No. 2 seed Duke held off seventh-seeded Creighton 66-50 on Sunday to advance to the round of 16 for the fourth time in five years.

A year after they lost their NCAA tournament opener, the Blue Devils (29-5) are back in the regional semifinal for the 23rd time. They'll play No. 3 seed Michigan State (27-8) in the regional semifinal Friday in Indianapolis.

Mason Plumlee, Josh Hariston and Ryan Kelly battled foul trouble all game long that could have doomed the Blue Devils. Creighton (28-8) went cold and never made a serious run in the second half. Doug McDermott scored 21 points but made only four baskets.

With McDermott slumping, the Bluejays were knocked out in the third round by an ACC team for the second straight season.



DENVER (AP)—Elvis Dumervil is putting his seven seasons in Denver and one bizarre fax fiasco behind him after agreeing to a five-year deal with the Baltimore Ravens on Sunday.

Dumervil tweeted his thanks to the Broncos and team owner Pat Bowlen shortly after rejecting the club's latest contract proposal.

"Can't say enough about the Broncos fans, my great teammates, equipment staff, training staff, media staff, Mr. Bowlen, Coach Fox, John Elway and the city of Denver. Its been an unforgettable 7 years. I am looking fwd to this next chapter of my career," Dumervil wrote.

So, after a second stinging loss to the Ravens this offseason, the Broncos find themselves in need of a new pass-rushing partner for Von Miller.

Elway, the Broncos football operations chief, issued a statement Sunday saying the Broncos "worked diligently over the last week" to re-sign Dumervil, a defensive captain, but "are now moving forward without him."

Broncos lose out to Ravens on Dumervil

Free agents John Abraham, 34, and Dwight Freeney, 33, visited the Broncos last week and it's expected one of them will sign on soon to replace Dumervil, 29.

Dumervil collected 63 1/2 sacks in seven seasons in Denver, three of which ended with Pro Bowl berths. He was scheduled to fly from his offseason home in Miami to Baltimore to take his physical Tuesday and sign his new contract.

On March 15, Dumervil waffled but finally agreed to reduce his 2013 salary from \$12 million to \$8 million in Denver as part of a renegotiated three-year, \$30 million contract. But the paperwork didn't reach the NFL offices in time and the Broncos were forced to release him to avoid having to pay him the full \$12 million for next season.

Dumervil fired agent Marty Magid after that deadline debacle and hired agent Tom Condon.

The Broncos issued a new contract proposal to Dumervil and his new agent, but the

Ravens swooped in and beat Denver for the second time this year—they also upset the AFC's top-seeded Broncos 38-35 in double-overtime in January on their way to winning the Super Bowl.

The Ravens have suffered several blows since beating San Francisco for the Lombardi Trophy, losing wide receiver Anquan Boldin, safeties Ed Reed and Bernard Pollard, cornerback Cary Williams, linebackers Paul Kruger and Dannell Ellerbe and guard Bobbie Williams while also bidding star linebacker Ray Lewis and center Matt Birk good luck in their retirements.

Luring Dumervil—and taking him from their AFC rivals—eases some of that sting.

The Broncos, on the other hand, have been one of the league's big spenders in free agency, acquiring wide receiver Wes Welker, right guard Louis Vasquez, defensive tackle Terrance Knighton, cornerback Dominique Rodgers-Cromartie and linebacker Stewart Bradley — all of whom could be starting

for a team that went 13-3 in Peyton Manning's first year in Denver last season.

The debacle with Dumervil put a big blemish on the Broncos' otherwise stellar offseason makeover. Dumervil agreed to a \$4 million pay cut two weeks ago but when the paperwork didn't get submitted on time, the Broncos had to cut Dumervil or else his \$12 million salary for next season would have been fully guaranteed.

By cutting him, they took a nearly \$5 million salary cap hit for next season, which factored into the latest offer from Denver that Dumervil ultimately rejected in favor of Baltimore's.

"As we have from the start of this process, we worked diligently over the last week to find a way for Elvis Dumervil to remain a Denver Bronco," Elway said in a statement Sunday. "Although we made multiple contract offers to Elvis after being forced to release him, we were unable to reach an agreement and are now moving forward without him."

"Elvis was a team captain and a talented player who made a great impact during his seven seasons in Denver. I appreciate all of his effort on the field and the work he did in the community," Elway added. "I wish Elvis all the best as he continues his NFL career."

Although Dumervil was often replaced on early downs last season, the Broncos weren't eager to jettison him. But they thought his \$12 million salary for next season was out of whack, so they asked him to take a cut in pay. Dumervil earned \$14 million in each of the last two seasons, part of a six-year, \$61.5 million deal he signed in 2010 shortly before missing that entire season with a torn chest muscle.

Dumervil is a popular teammate who will be sorely missed in Denver, both on and off the field.

"I concern myself with everything and the locker room's a huge one because you're dealing with players," coach John Fox said at the NFL owners meetings last week. "But I think

our guys understand there's two sides of football. ... I don't know if business is my favorite part or anybody else's favorite part. But it's a part of football and it usually occurs in the offseason. So, they understand that and I think guys separate that."

Dumervil, a fourth-round draft pick out of Louisville in 2006, had 20 1/2 sacks the last two seasons, making two trips to the Pro Bowl alongside Miller, the NFL's Defensive Rookie of the Year in 2011 who had 18 1/2 sacks last year, breaking the franchise record of 17 set by Dumervil in 2009.

Together they were dubbed "Doom & Gloom," and were the most prolific pair of pass-rushers in the league over the last two years.

Freeney, who played a decade with Manning in Indianapolis, has 107 1/2 career sacks in 11 seasons, all with the Colts. He had 13 1/2 sacks over the last two seasons.

Abraham has 122 sacks in 13 NFL seasons, six with the New York Jets and the last seven years with the Atlanta Falcons. He collected 19 1/2 sacks over the last two years.

Heat win 26th straight, beat Bobcats, 109-77



MIAMI (AP)—LeBron James had 32 points, 10 assists and eight rebounds as the Miami Heat won their 26th straight game, cruising to a 109-77 victory over the Charlotte Bobcats.

Some of the world's leading sportsmen were courtside Sunday night. Novak Djokovic, the top-ranked men's tennis player. Vladimir Klitschko, the world heavyweight boxing king. Rory McIlroy, who sits atop the golf rankings for at least one more night.

And James responded with another sterling performance, making 11 of 14 shots while helping Miami move within seven wins of matching the 1971-72 Los Angeles Lakers for the league record of 33 in a row.

Norris Cole scored 15 and Ray Allen added 14 for the Heat, who played without Dwyane Wade, held from the lineup because of right knee soreness that the team believes is minor.

Kemba Walker led Charlotte with 20 points, and Gerald Henderson had 18.

Rockets 96, Spurs 95

In Houston, James Harden sank an off-balance jumper with 4.5 seconds left to lift Houston to the victory.

Harden scored 18 of his 29 points in the second half as the Rockets rallied from three down in the final minute to snap a four-game losing streak to their state rivals.

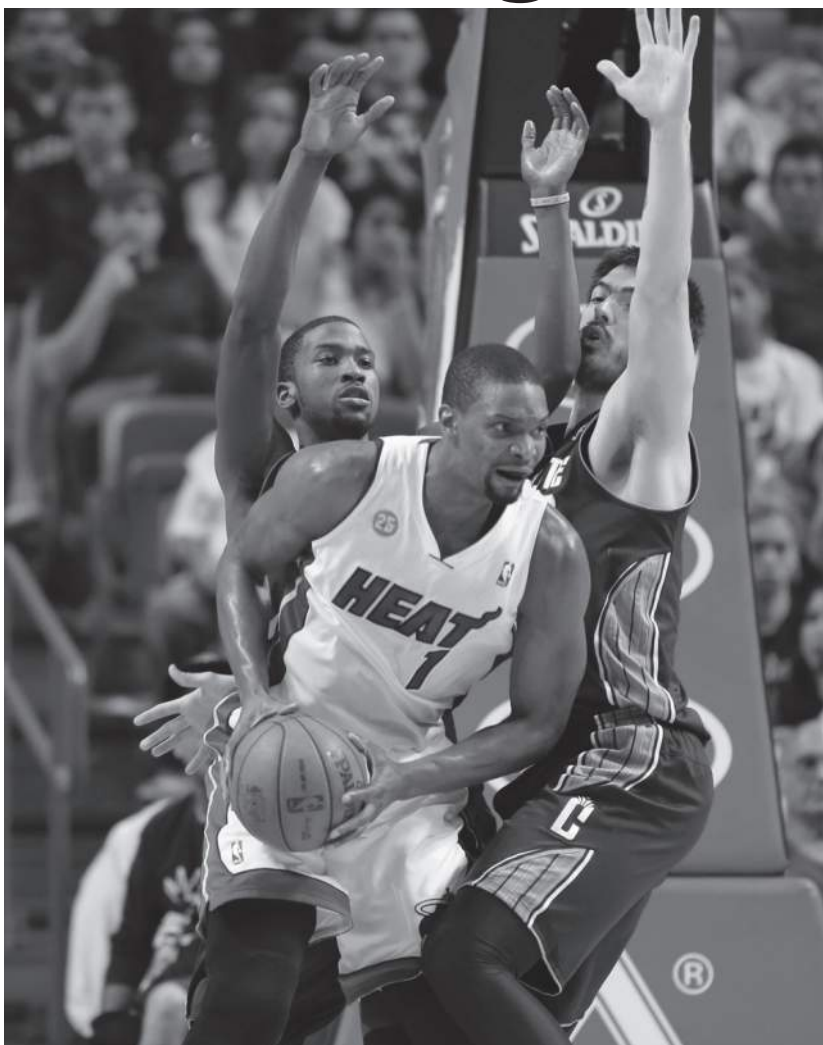
Tony Parker scored 23 points, including 10 in a row to put San Antonio ahead with just under 2 minutes left. The Spurs led 95-94 when Harden got the ball from Omer Asik, drove to the free-throw line and hit the winning jumper with Tim Duncan in front of him and Kawhi Leonard behind him.

Duncan missed a jumper from the wing just before the buzzer sounded.

Chandler Parsons scored 20 points and Asik grabbed 14 rebounds for the Rockets.

Hawks 104, Bucks 99

In Milwaukee, Al Horford scored 24 points to help Atlanta rally for the win.



Charlotte Bobcats players Michael Kidd-Gilchrist, left, and Byron Mullens, right, trap Miami Heat's Chris Bosh during the second half of a NBA basketball game in Miami, Sunday, March 24, 2013.

Josh Smith added 23 points and nine rebounds for the Hawks, who trailed 98-95 with 1:05 remaining. Devin Harris added 16 points and Jeff Teague finished with 14.

Smith converted a layup with 33.8 seconds to tie it at 99. After the Bucks turned it over, Dahntay Jones was fouled. He made the first and missed the second, but Anthony Tolliver grabbed the rebound for Atlanta and called timeout.

Horford was fouled with 20.1 seconds remaining and hit both free throws to give the Hawks a 102-99 lead. Monta Ellis missed a 3-pointer for Milwaukee, and Teague made two foul shots to

put the game away.

Ellis scored 20 points for Milwaukee, and Ersan Ilyasova added 19 points and 10 rebounds.

Thunder 103, Trail Blazers 83

In Oklahoma City, Kevin Durant had 24 points and 10 rebounds and Russell Westbrook fueled a key third-quarter spurt as the Thunder pulled away for the win.

Westbrook finished with 21 points and Serge Ibaka had 16 on 7-of-9 shooting for Oklahoma City (52-19), which moved within 1 1/2 games of San Antonio in the race for the Western Conference's top playoff spot.

Damian Lillard scored 19 points for Portland (33-37), which went 2-3 on a five-game road trip. The Blazers fell three games behind the Los Angeles Lakers in the race for the West's eighth and final playoff spot.

Oklahoma City coach Scott Brooks was called for a technical foul with 2:53 left in the third quarter and that seemed to spark Westbrook. Portland's Nicolas Batum made 2-of-3 free throws to tie it at 63, but a steal and dunk by Westbrook started a 10-2 run that put the Thunder ahead 73-65.

Bulls 104, Timberwolves 97

In Minneapolis, Nate Robinson had 22 points and 10 assists for Chicago, and Carlos Boozer added 19 points and 12 rebounds.

Luol Deng scored 17 points and Taj Gibson had 12 points and 11 rebounds for the Bulls, who were missing Joakim Noah for the second straight game because of plantar fasciitis. They still dominated the boards, 52-32, including 20 offensive rebounds.

Derrick Williams scored 28 points and Ricky Rubio had 15 points and eight assists for the Timberwolves.

Minnesota got as close as five points in the fourth quarter, but the Bulls overpowered the Wolves down the stretch to win back-to-back road games for the first time since Jan. 16-18.

Jimmy Butler added 20 points and nine rebounds for the Bulls, who remained a half-game back of Atlanta for fifth in the East.

Mavericks 113, Jazz 108

In Dallas, Mike James scored a season-high 19 points and Dirk Nowitzki added 17 as Dallas beat slumping Utah.

Vince Carter and Shawn Marion each had 15 points as the Mavericks moved within two games of the Los Angeles Lakers for the final playoff spot in the Western Conference.

Enes Kanter scored 17 points as the Jazz lost their ninth straight on the road, Utah's longest such skid since losing 17 in a row away from home during the 1981-82 season. The Jazz's last road

win was Feb. 13 at Minnesota.

The score was tied midway through the third before the 37-year-old James keyed a 20-2 run which bridged the third and fourth quarters.

Utah's Paul Millsap had 15 points and nine rebounds, and Gordon Hayward chipped in with 13 points.

Nets 102, Suns 100

In Phoenix, Deron Williams had 21 points and 11 assists as Brooklyn held on for the victory over Phoenix.

The Suns' Goran Dragic fell a rebound shy of his first career triple double with 31 points, 12 assists and nine boards. He was a point shy of his career scoring high.

Brook Lopez added 20 points, Kris Humphries 17 and C.J. Watson 14 for the Nets, playing without Joe Johnson, who bruised his thigh in Brooklyn's loss to the Clippers in Los Angeles on Saturday night.

The Suns had a chance at the end when Dragic purposely missed the second of two free with 3 seconds left and Phoenix' Hamed Haddadi controlled the rebound. But big Iranian's shot was off the mark.

76ers 117, Kings 103

In Sacramento, California, Dorell Wright hit six 3-pointers and scored 22 points as Philadelphia ended its longest road losing streak in more than 25 years.

It was a rare show of offensive explosiveness for the Sixers, who came in last in the NBA with an average of just under 93 points a game. They had 91 entering the fourth quarter and shot 49 percent to end their 15-game road skid and beat the Kings for the fifth straight time in Sacramento.

The Sixers' last road win was on New Year's Day against the Los Angeles Lakers. Philadelphia's road losing streak was its longest since the club dropped 20 in a row from Dec. 28, 1987-March 4, 1988.

Isaiah Thomas scored 25 points, Marcus Thornton added 22 and Tyreke Evans had 19 points and eight assists for the Kings, who had their three-game home win streak snapped. Patrick Patterson chipped in 12 points.



ORLANDO, Fla. (AP)—Tiger Woods is going to have to wait one more

day to try to reclaim No. 1 in the world.

Moments after Woods made a 10-foot birdie putt on the second hole, a vicious thunderstorm packing gusts that topped out at 62 mph interrupted the final round of the Arnold Palmer Invitational and wiped out play until Monday.

The storm dumped nearly 1 1/2 inches on Bay Hill and formed small ponds in the fairways—there was even a fish in the middle of the 18th fairway. The wind toppled the TV tower behind the 10th green, which was a pile of metal poles, wood, mesh netting and had a stationary camera in the middle of it all.

About an hour after a tornado warning expired, officials said they would need time to clean up the course and let it drain. The final round was to resume at 10 a.m. Monday.

Woods is going after his eighth win at Bay Hill, which would return him to No. 1 in the world ranking for the first time since the last week of October in 2010.

He hit all of six shots on Sunday, enough to build a three-shot lead over

Thunderstorm stops Tiger's march at Bay Hill

Rickie Fowler, Keegan Bradley, John Huh and Ken Duke.

"At least we got a little activity in today, so we're not completely stagnant," Woods said before leaving. "We've dealt with this before."

There was plenty of action on a short day, none more bizarre than Sergio Garcia.

The Spaniard's tee shot on the 10th hole somehow came to rest about 15 feet up in an oak tree, sitting between two large branches. Garcia used a cart to jump into the tree, and after a few minutes, hit a one-handed, back-handed shot back to the fairway, before jumping some 8 feet back to the ground.

William McGirt was playing his shot from the fairway bunker on the other side and had no idea what Garcia was doing.

"I knew they were looking around the tree," he said. "I didn't know they were looking in the tree. I looked over and Sergio is up in the air, and I'm trying to figure out what in the hell he's going to go. He called for a club. He's hugging the tree. And the ball comes flying out."

"Are you kidding me?"

Two holes later, the horn sounded. McGirt said Garcia handed him the scorecard and said, "I'm out of here." Garcia earlier had taken a 9 on the par-5 sixth hole.

Billy Horschel hit three tee shots in to the water on the sixth hole and made an 11.

Attribute that to the wind, which was gusting hard when the leaders teed off.

Mark Russell, the tour's vice president of competition, said officials discussed whether to play early Sunday from two tees to try to beat the storms. He said NBC Sports was involved in the discussions—Woods going for the win, with Fowler at his side is sure to boost ratings—and they rolled the dice.

"If we played early, it was going to be a tape-delay situation. People were going to know who won before it came on television, so it defeats our television partners," he said. "They wanted to take a chance. They've been involved in several situations where we played early and it didn't rain. It was just unfortunate."

This marks the third time this year on the PGA Tour that a tournament finished one day later because of weather.

Woods won at Torrey Pines on a Monday when the Farmers Insurance Open lost a day to fog in San Diego. The Tournament of Championship at Kapalua didn't start until Monday because of unusually high wind, and the 54-hole event was completed some 29 hours after the opening tee shot. Dustin Johnson won on a Tuesday.

It will be the third Monday finish in the 35-year history of this tournament.

The storm lasted about two hours, enough time to do plenty of damage. Tournament director Scott Wellington said his staff was just starting a full inspection.

"We had some TV cameras go down," Wellington said. "We had some fencing and so forth. All of the big structures to my knowledge—I have not been out there yet—are OK. But we want to make sure they're sound before we put people in them. We have some other structures, smaller structures, tents and so forth that did come down."

Lawn chairs were toppled along the 18th fairway, where fans had been anticipating a big finish with Woods in the lead. Two chairs had blown into a bunker on the 14th, and seedlings from oak trees were scattered across several greens. Bunkers were washed out.

An osprey snagged a fish along the 18th and couldn't hold on. A fan ran across the fairway to get the fish out of the rough, and then dove headfirst across the 4-inch deep puddle in the fairway, dropping the fish. It swam for about 3 feet before going motionless.

Russell said that while storms were in the forecast for Sunday afternoon, tournament and TV executives thought there was a chance it would go north and south. Instead, it took a direct hit on Bay Hill.

"This thing was moving fast, and if we got shut down for an hour, hour-and-a-half, we could still finish," Russell said. "We wouldn't have a problem there. But we got the very worst of it."

And so the wait continues for Woods, who is going after his third win this year. Along with trying to reclaim No. 1 from Rory McIlroy, he can tie a PGA Tour record by winning Bay Hill for the eighth time. Sam Snead won the Greater Greensboro Open eight times.

2013 Taga Kids



Finishers in the 2013 Taga Kids pose for a group photo at the American Memorial Park.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



The boys U8 Top 3 placers pose with their medals and Tagaman winners Ben Allen and Jacqui Slack.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO



Above left, swimmers play while waiting for the start of the race at Micro Beach.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO



Above, the Top 3 finishers in the boys 9 to 12 age group, Lennosuki Suzuki, second left, David Boyer-Roberto, center, and Blake Mister, second right.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO



Far left, spectators cheer on Jinnosuke Suzuki.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



Left, Michail Villagomez heads to the course.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



Ben Allen and Jacqui Slack pose with the girls U8 winners.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO



Leo Takahashi crosses the finish line.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



Taiyo Akimaru shows his prize after completing the race.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



Girls 6 to 8 second placer Soleil Lamar and her dad Daniel wait for the announcement of the other winners.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO



No. 15 Florida Gulf Coast beats SDSU, 81-71

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Heat win 26th straight, beat Bobcats, 109-77

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28 TUESDAY, MARCH 26, 2013

SAIPAN TRIBUNE

SSFM secures Division A title



SSFM's Jack Lizama drives against Docomo Pacific's Arthur Montes during the fourth quarter of their title game in the DLX/Anchor Strong caging last Saturday at the Gualo Rai Basketball Court.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

S SFM grabbed the Division B championship in the 2013 DLX/Anchor Strong Invitational Basketball League after routing Docomo Pacific, 79-64, last Saturday at the Gualo Rai Basketball Court.

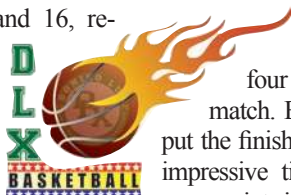
The trio of Jack Lizama, Don Brennan, and Leo Galarse made the difference for SSFM in the winner-take-all finale, as the group combined for more than half of the team's production. Lizama had a game-high 24 points and Brennan and Galarse

finished with 19 and 16, respectively.

Lizama and Brennan teamed up for 11 points in SSFM's pivotal 13-2 rally in the fourth quarter to turn a shaky 56-54 lead

to a 69-56 margin, with less than a four minutes left in the match. Brennan went on to put the finishing touches in their impressive title win, scoring 6 more points in the homestretch.

See SSFM on Page 26



Records broken in SSC Ocean Swim



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

From left, Tsunami Guam's Soujyu Usui and Tasi Limtiaco and Tsunami Saipan's Kensuke Kimura move out of the water during last Sunday's 35th Annual Saipan Swim Club Ocean Swim in Susupe.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER



The top finishers in the 2.5-kilometer race in last Sunday's 35th Annual Saipan Swim Club Ocean Swim in the waters off Susupe obliterated the winning times in the 2012 event.

The host's Victoria Chentsova completed the two-lap race in 36:10, surpassing the 37:58 winning time she incidentally logged in last year's competition. Besides posting the fastest time in the women's field, Chentsova also won the girls 15 to 19 age group, besting seven other swimmers from Tsunami Swim Club Guam, Manhoben Swim Club, Kwajalein Swim Club, and Manukai Athletics Club.

In the men's division, Tsunami Guam's Tasi Limtiaco also had

See RECORDS on Page 26

Tsunami Guam rules SSC meet



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

A Tsunami Guam swimmer and six other entries get ready at the starting block during the 200m freestyle race in last Saturday's 2013 Saipan Swim Club International Invitational Swim Meet at the Kan Pacific Swimming Pool.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The visiting Tsunami Swim Club Guam returned home victorious after reigning supreme in the 2013 Saipan Swim Club International Invitational Swim Meet held over the weekend at the Kan

Pacific Swimming Pool.

The Toshi Iijima-coached Tsunami Guam collected 1,220 points from the Friday and Saturday competing, besting six other clubs. This year's overall champion received points based on how its swimmers finished in each

See TSUNAMI on Page 26

Emon Lodge caging eyes May opening



The Emon Lodge No. 179 Brotherhood Basketball League 2013/Docomo Pacific Cup targets a May 26 opening at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

The third edition of the Emon Lodge caging will only accept as much as eight teams with each squad allowed to have a maximum of 12 players in its roster. The league is open to players of all ages and uniforms are included in the \$600 entrance fee.

Representatives of interested squads are requested to attend a meeting on April 2 at 6pm at J's Restaurant in Middle Road to discuss details about the opening and other requirements. Teams' representatives are also required to list the complete name of their players with their assigned jersey numbers and turned in the signed waiver forms.

Mobil is the defending champion in the Emon

See EMON on Page 26



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Mobil's Marvin Rabauliman pulls up for a shot against Armatech's Bruce Berline during last year's Emon Lodge caging at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.